BIBLICGRAPHY - 1940

New Book on Negro Aids Bourbon View

THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE NEGRO, by Charles S. Mangum. Published by the University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N. C. 436 pp. $5.00.

By Ben Davis, Jr.

Over the last few years, a great renaissance has been taking place in the South in which the Negro and white masses have begun to become alive to their power and their destiny. The prime factors responsible for this has been the growing labor movement and its spur toward Negro and white unity, and the early pioneering struggles of the Communist Party around Scottsboro, Herndon and similar historic issues.

From these stirrings below has come a strengthened liberal and progressive movement which has reflected itself in support for the Negro's constitutional rights, for abolition of the poll tax, and for passage of the anti-lynching bill—to cite only a few bright spots.

Mr. Mangum's book is, however, not a reflection of this progressive South. It is largely an apology for poll tax democracy and for the bourbon system which degrades the Negro people and the poor whites.

It deals with the body of the law—both court decisions, statutes and ordinances—which relate particularly to the rights of the Negro. It starts from the question of the absurd Ku Klux Klan definition of a Negro, through jim crow laws, labor and related problems, mob violence, and it treats with the whole superstructure of discriminatory regulations as they bar Negroes from juries, the franchise, from decent schools, from living where white Americans live, and from being full-fledged American citizens.

The preface says in part:

"This is not a philosophic treatise on the problems of race relations and the courts, but a statement of the law as it has been interpreted by courts all over the nation."

Perhaps the book would not have been so bad, if it had stuck to that characterization. For any mere statement of the capitalist law as it denies to Negroes their constitutional rights must reveal its upper class viciousness. But this book goes much further; it definitely and clearly presents a reactionary social point of view.

Mr. Mangum does not believe in the abolition of even the poll tax. In fact, speaking of the mass disfranchisement of the Negro and white people he says:

"It is not believed that legislation, either state or federal, is the remedy for this situation."

His reason is the same one advanced by the bourbons, namely that "the South is still afraid of the Negro vote as manipulated by unscrupulous politicians."

This is just plain "white supremacy" stuff, and is a slander of the Negro people. He forgets, of course, about the fact that it is the poll tax that keeps such corrupt machines as that of Martin Dies, Garner and others of this ilk in power—through disfranchisement of both the Negro and the white people in eight poll tax states.

Reveals Class Viciousness

Any book which does not support the passage of the Geyer anti-poll tax bill, which isn't bitter against the poll tax—especially when the majority of white Southerners are against it—can scarcely be called liberal.

In his discussion of federal anti-lynching legislation, Mr. Mangum's prejudice is against it. He says it's a "moot question" as to whether such legislation would be constitutional. So do the Republican demagogs argue, and even some of the bourbon Democrats. This is only a subterfuge for killing the federal anti-lynching bill, as nearly everyone knows. Surely, the American people—including a majority of Southern people—by the Gallup poll have shown that they do not regard this bill as a "moot question," but as a concrete measure against the hideous lynching evil and against white Americans.

Thus on these two key issues, the poll tax and the federal anti-lynching bill, this book is on the reactionary side of the fence. But its whole approach on other issues is a bourbon one.

On the Reconstruction period, the book has the same view as "Gone With the Wind." It speaks of the "horrors of Reconstruction" and of the "dark blot" of Reconstruction, although this period was the nearest thing to democracy that the South ever had. It was then that the Negro people showed their real genius and enacted laws not only for their own freedom but which brought fuller rights to the poor whites.

This book adopts the view that the thing that would hurt the Negro most is for any fight to be put up for his rights, which is the same view of Cotton Ed Smith, and of the whole system of national oppression of the Negro. This is the "stirring-up-trouble" view. The author says to enforce equal rights for Negroes in Louisiana "would probably lead to a great deal of friction between the races and would hurt the Negro cause," although an unemployed Louisiana statute so provides! So behind a thin-skinned objectivity Mr. Mangum's book is here upholding lawlessness.

Again, it speaks of "stirring up race hatred in the community" if a Negro seeks his constitutional right of admission to public places in the South. It glorifies the jim-crow "dual system" of the education in the South, which results in a miserable lack of schooling for Negro children. In the fight for jobs, it holds that Negroes should not be permitted to picket and boycott stores which refuse to give Negroes jobs, because the whites may turn on them. (This, too, when even the U. S. Supreme Court has upheld such picketing.) It speaks of the extreme difficulty of having Negroes on petit juries in the South because this would mean that Negroes and whites would have to be locked up in the same room.

Examples of this sort from the book could be multiplied almost without end. They all go to prove that the "legal objectivity" of this work is an out-and-out defense of the bourbon oppression of the Negroes. This apology is interspersed between a voluminous citation of cases, opinions and decisions. It is too bad that a book on such a live and basic subject has to be marred by a reactionary philosophy. It makes no class distinctions among the whites, and therefore slanders the poor whites by attributing to them the responsibility of the lynch system, which properly belongs to the ruling class. It berates the "North" for not understanding the "abysmal ignorance" of the Negro and thus fans the flames of racial hatred and sectionalism. The implication is that the Southern bourbons know "better" how to handle Negroes.

It is not sufficient to write a book which merely shows interest in the Negro people—some of the most reactionary works display the greatest interest in the Negro. Any legal or social work on the South must be tested by the contribution it makes to a better life for the Negro and white people of that lynch-stricken region. By that standard, Mr. Mangum's book is acutely wanting.

Evangelist's Disciples Block Address by Langston Hughes

Washington Tribune

NOV 30 1940

PASADENA, Cal.—Scheduled to address more than 600 of this city's elite at a literary luncheon recently, Langston Hughes, famous poet, playwright, found himself stymied by the Archangels of Sister Aimee Semple McPherson, noted white evangelist, and was forced to abandon his plans.

The demonstrators pointing to a poem written by Hughes several years ago called "Goodbye Christ," labelled him a radical and an anti-Christ.

Washington D.C.

Carrying on their protest with Hollywood flourishes, Aimee's disciples set up a sound truck across the street from the Hotel Vista Del Arroyo, swept through adjacent blocks waving banners and hoisted soap box pulpiteers wearing flowing capes.

Arriving at the luncheon after the demonstration had started, Hughes was informed by the master of ceremonies, George Palmer Putnam, former husband of the late Amelia Earhart, then "an unpleasant situation" had arisen.

Palmer explained that the conductors of the luncheon were willing and desirous of havinug him appear but that the hotel management had become fearful. As he was discussing the situation with Palmer in a hotel anteroom, members of the Four Square Church, Evangelist McPherson's stronghold, burst in, demanding if Hughes had written "Goodbye Christ."

"What are your religious views?" he was asked.

"I respect all religious views and feel that people have a right to worship as they choose," he responded.

After the delegation left, demonstrations outside the hotel became louderd and Hughes was forced to leave to avert any further trouble.

Romantic History Of Negro Business Told In New Book

NEW YORK--(ANP)— Publication this summer of 'An Economic Detour" by Wendell Malliet and Company of New York City, marks the fourth milestone in the increasing publishing business of the two-year, old firm. Largest (it is 345 pages) and finest publishing job done by them, it is the first full sized book in a series of 10 which they will bring out during the coming year.

"An Economic Detour" is the romantic history of Negro business in America from the dark days of slavery to the present time. Though chiefly devoted to prosaic figures, it

Volume By M. S. Stuart Is Praised

contains conscious humor, tragedy and unparalleled drama. Painstaking research, a comprehensive knowledge of the principles of economics, a deep insight into Negro life, are evident as page after page unfolds its fascinating and intriguing tales. One picks up the book expecting uninteresting figures, a compilation of dry statistics and is pleasantly surprised when the book proves all-absorbing, breath-taking and pleasant reading for any one

WRITTEN BY STUART

Written by Merah Steven Stuart, 62-year-old author, it is his first book. Stuart is a nationally known figure in insurance circles and the business world, being vice president and director of governmental relations of Universal Life Insurance company of Memphis, and historian of the National Negro Insurance association. He has traveled extensively in the interests of both companies, is a silver-tongued orator and imbued with the idea of the ultimate success of Negro business if properly encouraged and supported by every strata of Negroes. Hidden between statements contained in the book is an evident irritation and resentment against the fact, often expressed by the author in his speaking engagements, that Negro business is never given the full support of our constantly growing professional class.

As is to be expected it deals chiefly with life insurance companies, their beginnings when the Negro "just happened to get into" it, their incomparable struggles to survive, the amount of money involved in the 46 companies now operating, causes of liquidations which startled our industrial world, and a recounting of the many frauds instigated within and without Negro insurance organizations Struggles of Negro officers to keep their thriving businesses out of the control of white insurance companies is graphically told, regretfully chronicled.

GOOD INFORMATION

Destined to become a standard work of reference for Negro insurance companies, much of its story has been secured from the files of each, a small part of it from the department of commerce, Negro division. It will prove invaluable to those who desire information regarding the purchasing power and distribution of income among Negroes. It is a fact source for the business man, lawyer, teacher, preacher, editor, writer and student. It should be a "must" item in every library in the country. It contains a challenge to Negro business and race pride which can be profitably accepted by all.

Increasing stability of colored companies is shown and it is proudly pointed out that state insurance commissioners apply the same restrictions to Negro companies that they apply to whites.

Bibliographies Issued By Urban League To Aid Applicants For Civil Service Tests

Two new bibliographies, designed to aid applicants for Civil Service positions, have been prepared by the Department of Industrial Relations of the National Urban League. The first of these, a "Bibliography On Placement And Employment Office Procedure," lists all important literature available to those interested in the problems dealt with in the placement office, and the practices and procedures of the employment office. The second, a "Bibliography On Industrial Problems and Labor Legislation," is designed especially to assist persons in studying for the Civil Service examination for Junior Inspector, Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor. It lists all recent publications which will be helpful to a mastery of that subject.

Both bibliographies may be obtained at the office of the National Urban League, 1133 Broadway, New York City, at 10 cents per copy.

The League's Department of Industrial Relations has also announced that study materials are available at its office for persons interested in preparing for the New York State Civil Service examination for the position of Employment Counselor, Division of Placement and Unemployment Insurance, New York State Department of Labor, to be held on July 20. These materials may be used between 9 and 4 o'clock, Mondays through Fridays of each week. No charge is made for this service.

A.K.A. and A.P.A.

September's Survey Graphic, in an informative article, tells the story of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's annual health clinics in Mississippi, in which 14,500 children have been immunized against diphtheria and smallpox and uncounted thousands of adults treated for malaria and syphilis.

Dr. Dorothy Boulding Ferebee of Washington, with eleven women, carries on this work each summer with funds provided by A.K.A. women.

Another publication of equal interest is a pamphlet by Dr. Rayford Logan, professor of history at Howard University, containing 160 news articles, letters and editorials from Southern white newspapers dealing with the question of the colored vote.

The pamphlet is titled, "The Attitude of the Southern White Press Toward Suffrage of Colored People, 1932-40."

A foreword by Dr. Charles Wesley points out that the survey was made possible by funds supplied by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

The 160 editorials, etc., from the Southern dailies are printed without comment. None is needed. When, for example, the Charleston, S.C., News and Courier says that, "If . . . white men are to live in the South, they cannot share it politically with the colored race, not yet . . . not in a future so near we can see it," comment is superfluous.

We are dealing not with intelligence but with brutal intolerance and ignorance.

Few people in the North and West read Southern dailies, but they will read this collection of editorials and the picture they get of Dixie democracy compares favorably with Hitler's negation of freedom and democracy in Europe.

Mainly, however, we note here that two of the leading college fraternities and sororities are making a constructive contribution to public welfare.

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African Blood Hitler's "Pure"

FOUND IN ARYANS

BERLIN, Germany — The "pure" Aryans which Chancellor Adolf Hitler would make the world's dominant race are generously supplied with African blood.

It remained for a German authority, Brunold Springer, to bring the fact to general attention through his book, "Racial Mixture as a Basic Principle of Life," recently published here.

Beethoven Cited

Among the noted figures in German history whom he cites as having had readily discernible Negroid characteristics is Dr. Schweninger, personal physician to Bismarck and Beethoven, foremost German composer.

Members of the German nobility, says Springer, as well as the Russian and English ruling class, are among the high circle of Europeans who inherited much African blood from Abraham Petrovich Hannibal, Russian educated native Nubian and grandfather of the poet, Alexander Pushkin.

Had German Wife

Hannibal, as the seven-year-old son of a Nubian chieftain, was sent to Peter the Great as a gift in 1705, served as royal page and tutor, was a captain in the French army in the war against Spain and married a German member of the old Livonian nobility. Half of his children were white and half colored.

Another source of African blood in Germans of some prominence is traced to the settlement of some 3,000 Spaniards in Hamburg wgen they were driven from France and the Netherlands.

HAD SLAVES' BLOOD.

These Spaniards, according to Springer, had acquired a very large percentage of Negro blood from slaves who accompanied the Moorish invaders.

A deed current of Negro blood is traced to the early citizenry of Portugal, where Negroes often rose to the caste of nobility. A French actress, Gabrielle Rejane is cited for her broad nose and heavy lips.

Afro-American
7-6-40
Baltimore, Md.

Seneca, S. C., Journal
June 13, 1940

Miss Marguerite Tolbert, Former Seneca Teacher, Receives Master's Degree

Miss Marguerite Tolbert, former teacher in the Seneca schools, received her Master's Degree from Furman University last week. She was given a fellowship at Furman last fall. During the year she did graduate work in education and sociology and also assisted in teaching in the department of education.

The thesis Miss Tolbert submitted was entitled "A Survey of the Colored Schools of Oconee County." Extracts from this treatise were quoted by one of the professors in a report to the University of Chicago. So interesting and informative did they find it that they wrote to Furman for a brief of her thesis for further study.

Miss Tolbert left Friday for Columbia to attend a conference regarding the Opportunity School. From there she went Monday to Newberry College to take up her work in the summer school there. For six weeks she will conduct a demonstration class in an integrated program for intermediate activities.

At the conclusion of her work at Newberry College, she will go to Clemson College, where she will be Dean of Instruction of the Opportunity school.

THE EMPEROR'S ITCH. By Reuben Friedman. 8vo. New York: Froben Press, 4 St. Luke's Place. $1.50.

The legend concerning Napoleon's affliction with scabies.

AMERICAN YOUTH TODAY. By Leslie A. Gould. 12mo. New York: Random House. $2.

The American Youth Congress gives its story. Foreword by Eleanor Roosevelt.

EASY LESSONS IN GUITAR PLAYING. By John Locke. Paper covers. New York: Home Service, 635 Fifth Ave. 10 cents.

POEMS FROM A WAR VETERAN. By Axelander Factor. Pamphlet. New York: Henry Harrison. 40 cents.

A collection of poems.

"HE RESCUED THE SLAVES." By Beverly W. Howe. Pamphlet. Chicago, Ill.: Winslow Publishing Company, 8 South Dearborn.

An address on the seventh National Lincoln Day Pilgrimage.

MORE ORION POETRY Attributed to John Keats. Edited by Bristol Williams. Pamphlet. Webster Groves, Mo.: The International Mark Twain Society. 50 cents.

Putsch in the South

WEEVIL IN THE COTTON, *by Samuel Milton Elam. Frederick A. Stokes Co. $2.*

WE HAVE met in life the contemporary grotesques who people this book—the hoodlum legionnaire, the flunky shyster, the smalltime cheat. We know that of such are fascism's whip-masters. This is a rogue's diary of our hate-ridden southland, a realistic "shocker" whose most sensational revelation is that of minds quite naively devoid of moral considerations. The men who squirm their way to power in the author's fictitious city are the terrifyingly typical "weevils" of Southern bureaucracy. Despite all that we know of the South the psychological quality of this portrait is something rare in fiction.

The plot is the counterpart of Sinclair Lewis' *It Can't Happen Here,* but on a more modest scale. A shady lawyer, a cheapjack politician, a bullying ward-heeler and a blackmailing newspaperman seize "protective" control of a black belt community. The editor of the local newspaper, a liberal Doremus Jessup, is murdered and his paper used to build up a bogus emergency of race hysteria. There is no evasiveness in Mr. Elam's evocation of this brutality. As in the Lewis novel, it is equipped with all the European gadgets—stormtroops, assassinations, concentration camps—and, above all, the very native device, the terrorization of the Negroes.

Elam has projected this backwater putsch as the achievement of four individual ambitions. We miss the hand that grips the lives of Southern workers, black and white, and springs the trap at every lynching: the hand of the mill and plantation owner and the banker. We find no mention of the hard-fisted rentiers who control the whole nervous structure of white rule. The narrative fades off unrealistically with the final defeat of the dictators, not by an indignant citizenry, but in a confusing scramble of rival Hitlers.

The style of this book is its chief source of power. Written in the first person through the hard mouth of the callous, power-hungry reporter, it gives us a clear view of the men who calmly organize a lynching, admitting that race hatred is only a tool, "something you don't get excited about except and in case." Before his execution for treason our narrator regretfully scribbles in his cell, "The time was ripe; the time was here. I could have been made use of. Only the place was wrong. They could have used a guy like me in Europe." It is proof of his considerable literary skill that Elam has made his delinea-

American soil. The second group of important documents come from the pen of Jules Lukasiewicz, the Polish ambassador in Paris

Can Any Good Come Out of Mississippi?

With the World War at our door, perhaps we ought not to spend time talking about new books. But we can't forbear saying a word about the new book of Samuel Denny Smith (white) on "Colored Men in Congress 1870-1901."

It is published by the University of North Carolina Press at Chapel Hill, price $2.50.

First. it should be noted that Dr. Smith is assistant professor of social sciences at Mississippi State College for Women. Having made that observation, we can paraphrase a Biblical expression and allege that nothing good for us can come out of Mississippi, and we should not be far wrong.

Dr. Smith discusses the careers of the twenty-two colored men who were elected to Congress during the Reconstruction period and twenty-three others who ran for Congress unsuccessfully.

He discovers that there is disagreement as to how well these men served their constituents and how much they were able to accomplish.

Their inability to originate and secure a great deal of specific legislation, he believes, warrants the conclusion that colored people would do well, for a time at least, to forget political ambitions in this field.

Judged by our standards our Reconstruction Congressmen proved themselves worthy representatives. Without their presence in the Capitol, we should never have had a civil rights law, which alone was sufficient to guarantee their collective careers a mark of success.

In addition, their mere presence in the Capitol must have expedited legislation that was good and improved that which was bad.

If the argument is made that Hiram Revels, first colored U.S. Senator from Mississippi, was elected to succeed Jefferson Davis, white, leader of the Confederacy, because he was colored, it can be also pointed out that many a Congressman today is still elected on account of his color. How else shall we explain Bilbo. Tom Connally, Vardaman, and Tillman? What bills of value have they introduced and had enacted into law?

Fortunately, Dr. Smith cannot say the last word on this subject, and who could expect him to write a book conceding the success of colored men in Congress so long as he occupies a teaching post in a State that today by fraud and intimidation or both, bars colored people from the polls?

WPA WRITERS PLAN TO WRITE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ILLINOIS

The Illinois Writers' Project expects all its studies eventually to culminate in an encyclopedia of Illinois. In line with such a plan several studies on Negro life are being undertaken. Of these one of the most fascinating is "The History of Negro Music and Musicians in Chicago."

Such a history will include a sketch tracing the migration of Negroes to Chicago and a study of the musical resources they brought with them from the deep South. Ragtime in Chicago will be considered, along with the careers of famous composers who produced it. Notable among these are Shelton Brooks and Will Marion Cook. Also to be included are the unsung composers of "Pretty Baby", and "Just One Work of Consolation." "State Street Blues", and "Spirituals of Today", as the present gospel-singing is called, will each be given a niche.

Concert and parlor music have had their vogues among Chicago Negroes. Accomplishments by Chicago Negroes in these fields will be surveyed. Women who sang in opera, who composed symphonies, and that group of women who first presented Marian Anderson and Anita Patti Brown—will be included.

Nor does this study intend to ignore the "Boogie Woogie" style of piano playing now so much in favor with the "jive cats" and "rug cutters." Originating in Chicago, its best-known history is largely centered here.

Concluding with a complete directory of Negro music played and sung about Chicago, the study will prove to be a prize morsel for the Illinois encyclopedia when the enterprise finally gets underway. In the meantime, it is hoped such a study of Negro music in Chicago may find a sponsor for present publication.

Food For Thought- In A Capsule

A most timely study by two seasoned researchers and writers, Dr. Rayford W. Logan and Dr. Charles H. Wesley, has just come off the press and we recommend it to all those interested in democracy and progress. It is "The Attitude of the Southern White Press Toward Negro Suffrage, 1932-1940," edited by Dr. Logan, with a comprehensive foreword by Dr. Wesley. The monograph is published by the Foundation Publishers, Washington, D. C.

It is not only the Negro who suffers through the restrictions against voting, for "it has been estimated that, in the eight southern states having the poll tax, 64 per cent of the white adult potential voters do not vote." This fact is a potent factor in the "opposition (that) has been developing to the poll tax . . . a barrier to democratic participation in government."

Dr. Wesley very pertinently observes in his foreword that: "The publication of these views (in southern white papers) may suggest not only varying opinions in selected areas, but also certain next steps."

He added: "The state of public opinion on the subject of Negro suffrage is of major importance . . . It may well be also that bringing these views into the open, so that a more general observation can be had of them, may lead to more reflective thinking. The inequities of suffrage limitations should then become more realistic to whites and blacks."

Just what the study revealed is highlighted as follows by Dr. Logan: ". . .a continuing intolerance in the deep South and a growing tolerance in the border states. In the latter there is an occasional voice that goes beyond mere tolerance and demands the participation of at least some Negroes in the Democratic primary . . . .If one may judge by these articles, the South as a whole is not yet ready to permit the Negro freely to participate in the Democratic primary."

We cannot think of any better conclusion than that voiced by Dr. Logan himself: "As the United States girds herself for the preservation of democracy, it might not be a bad idea to have some democracy to defend." In a capsule, that is quite a bit of food for thought.

How 'Uncle Tom' Was Written Told on Radio

NOV 16 1940

BRUNSWICK, Maine—Harriet Beecher Stowe modestly proclaimed that "God Himself" wrote "Uncle Tom's Cabin," but Ted Malone brought his American Pilgrimage on Sunday to this city to pay tribute to the woman who set down the words of the book which did more than any other literary agency to spread the cause of abolitionism.

Malone broadcast from the parlor of the Harriet Beecher Stowe Home at 63 Federal Street where Mrs. Stowe read to her family the chapters of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" as they poured from her crusading pen in 1851.

Harriet Beecher Stowe had written sporadically and been passionately interested in the slavery question since her father became president of Lane Theological Seminary in Cincinnati and took the family there to live.

Here she and her brother, Henry Ward Beecher, joined the group of abolitionists and here she married Professor Calvin Stowe, the widower of one of her best friends.

But it wasn't until the rapidly increasing family had been brought through the struggle against poverty and Professor Stowe's appointment to the faculty of Bowdoin College in Brunswick that Harriet Beecher Stowe had time to crystallize her indignation at the injustices of the Fugitive Slave Law into the story of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" first printed serially in the National Era and then published in two volumes with a woodcut of a cabin for frontispiece.

3,000 First Day

The book sold 3,000 copies the first day, and by the end of the year royalties from 300,000 copies had poured into the house in Brunswick. Later years took Harriet away from Brunswick to Andover, Hartford and Florida, but people still flock to the house in Brunswick where "Uncle Tom" found a "new birth of freedom."

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Evangelist Aimee Ruins Langston Hughes' Lunch

NOV 30 1940

LOS ANGELES—(ANP)—Sister Aimee Semple McPherson—she who went down to sea more than a decade ago and turned up in the desert with a tall tale of kidnaping and who has waged many a free-for-all battle with all manner of men, women and devils, including her own mother and daughter—turned the full force of her fury on Poet Langston Hughes last Friday and as usual staged a comedy of errors that again plastered her name in the headlines.

Defender

Casualties of Aimee's devilkrieg were:

1. More than 600 guests at a Pasadena literary luncheon who had gathered to hear Hughes and a half dozen other writers chat about their books.

Chicago

2. Two of her own followers who were tossed in the hoosegow for violation of Pasadena ordinances.

3. Poet Hughes who was forced to leave the ritzy Vista Del Arroyo hotel without eating his lunch but who is reported on reliable authority to have stayed his stomach at a not-so-ritzy Central avenue eatery sometime later.

Ill.

Many years ago, it seems, Hughes wrote a poem in which he referred to Sister Aimee and assorted other religious leaders in none too complimentary language. Last week he was invited to a literary luncheon to say a few words about his recent best selling autobiography, "The Big Sea."

Somehow or other word got to Sister Aimee that he would speak at Pasadena's swank Hotel Vista Del Arroyo and she warned her followers that the devil has been appearing in strange guises for untold centuries while telling them of Hughes' scheduled talk. Her followers took the hint if it was a hint and if it wasn't a hint they tok it anyhow.

Hughes had a little more than seated himself in the hotel luncheon room and eyed the tasty viands before the hotel manager appeared and told him that a crowd was gathering with sound wagons, signs and the other badges of picketing. A hasty conference between Hughes, the manager, and the chairman of the luncheon produced a decision that he would not speak.

But before he could leave a delegation burst into the room and put him through a catechism on the poem and by the time he got to the street it was packed with pickets, onlookers and police squad cars. In the confusion Hughes got a taxi and returned to Los Angeles.

Meanwhile police were trying to disperse the pickets and before they could get through they had arrested the Rev. James Inglis, Four Square Gospel pastor of Pasadena, on charges of resisting an officer and Archie C. Foster for advertising without a license.

Undaunted and apparently unmoved by his flight from Pasadena, Poet Hughes turned up Sunday morning at a literary coffee staged by the Allied Arts league at the home of Miss Pauline Slater where, unbothered by pickets he read some of his latest poems to the delight of the breakfasters and where his books sold like the proverbial hotcakes.

Later, flanked by Loren Miller, his personal attorney, Hughes told reporters that he was unruffled by the experience and absolved the hotel and his Pasadena hosts of all blame for the occurrence. Queried, his attorney said that no legal action of any kind was planned. "Looks like one of Aimee's publicity gags," he commented.

P.S.—Pasadena bookstores reported an increased sale of Hughes' books.

Aimee Semple McPherson Turns Fury on Langston Hughes, Halts Luncheon

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.

NOV 29 1940

LOS ANGELES.—(ANP)—Sister Aimee Semple McPherson — she who went down to sea more than a decade ago and turned up in the desert with a tall tale of kidnaping and who has waged many a free-for-all battle with all manner of men, women and devils, including her own mother and daughter—turned the full force of her fury on mild-mannered Poet Langston Hughes last Friday and as usual staged a comedy of errors that again plastered her name in the headlines.

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A Poem the Cause

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Confusion Reigns

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Undaunted and apparently unmoved by his historic flight from Pasadena, Poet Hughes turned up Sunday morning at a literary coffee staged by the Allied Arts league at the home of Miss Pauline Slater where, unbothered by pickets he read some of his latest poems to the delight of the breakfasters and where his books sold like the proverbial hotcakes.

Sells More Books

Later, flanked by Loren Miller, his personal attorney, Hughes told reporters that he was unruffled by the experience and absolved the hotel and his Pasadena hosts of all blame for the occurence. Queried, his attorney said that no legal action of any kind was planned. "Looks life one of Aimee's publicity gags to us," he commented. P. S. The other luncheon speakers said their pieces.

P. S. Pasadena bookstores reported an increased sale of Hughes's books.

Composer Of Gospel Songs Writes Book

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

NOV 23 1940

"Some With a Message with My Ups and Downs" is a vivid and beautifully document of songs, poems, reading and life story written by Prof. Thomas A. Dorsey, America's foremost Gospel songwriter, of Chicago, Ill.

The book contains 87 pages crowded with never-to-be forgotten reading matter. In it are some of the composer's songs as well as many of his brilliant poems.

The rise of this noted man is a saga worth reading. Prof. Dorsey was born in Villa Rica, Ga., of poor parents, but while young determined to lift himself. He attended the Atlanta Baptist College (now Morehouse College) where he was graduated in 1895.

Early in his life, he became a talented pianist. Later he migrated to Chicago where he was able to further develop his talent. He worked hard in the day and went to school at night.

Having reached manhood, Dorsey was inspired greatly when the National Baptist Convention met in Chicago in 1921 after hearing the wonderful singing of Prof. Nix, a great gospel singer of that day. He united with the Pilgrim Baptist Church the same year.

Prof. Dorsey eyed the big money for a while and became a piano player for a band but soon lost his taste for the jazz band. Thereafter, he devoted his time to the composition of gospel songs, gradually rising t me until today he is "tops" this branch of endeavor.

Much of the combination book is given over to many fine poems and readings written by the great composer.—T. Arnold.

American Education Council Publishes Studies of Youth

NOV 22 1940

By THOMAS A. WEBSTER

The American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education has undertaken as one of its major problems, a survey of Negro Youth problems. The survey is intended to study personality development of Negro youth as affected by their membership in a minority racial group and as manifested in different sections of the country.

Three of these studies have been published. "In A Minor Key" by Ira DeA Reid, "Children of Bondage," by Allison Davis and John Dollard and "Negro Youth at the Crossways," by E. Franklin Frazier.

"Negro Youth at the Crossways" is a survey of Negro youth and their personality development in the Middle States, Louisville, Ky., and Washington, D. C., two border state communities, are used to present the social organization and stratification of border state communities and their relation to the white world.

Much community data is given and the inter-racial experiences of 268 Negro young people are revealed in their contacts in the family, the neighborhood, the school, the church and in their search for a job.

Movements Influence Behavior

How social movements and ideologies influence the behavior and attitudes of boys and girls as Negro youth are analyzed in another chapter. The author concludes that from the standpoint of participation in the institutional life of the community, the Negro lives in a social world isolated from the white world, and his social values and social distinctions spring out of the experiences and social actualities in the Negro world.

In analyzing the experiences of Negro youth and how these experiences effect their conception of themselves and their attitudes toward the whites within their communiy, the author found in lower-class families, which make up two-thirds of the Negro population, Negro youth were influenced in their conception of themselves as Negroes by their parents' acceptance of the belief that the Nefro is inferior and that his subordination to the white man is inevitable. Middle class youth, at least in their overt behavior, should show the same accommodation to their subordinate racial status as lower-class children. They believe that the Negro should seek power, money and education in order to match their wits with the white man's.

Upper-class families, with greater sophistication, identified themselves culturally with the larger world and Negro youth of all classes admitted their unequal chance for employment to that of white youth.

Explore Personalities

An exploration of the entire personalities of two Negro youth, a boy and a girl are given complete case studies of a boy reared in middle class circumstances and a girl born to a lower class status.

This view of the total personality organization indicates that the personality of the Negro child develops in response to the family situation into which it is born. "The cultures, traditions, and economic position of the family determine not only the type of discipline to which the child is subjected, but the manner in which he develops his conception of himself as a Negro.

As he grows up, his contacts with the larger outside social world influence still further his attitudes toward himself as a Negro as well as his attudes toward white people. Because of the limitations which make impossible for free and easy participation in the larger community, his attitudes and overt behavior wil show more or less the influence of the isolated social world to which he is confined.

Forthcoming publicationc of this series of these special studies to clarify the status of Negro young people and to define the dimensions and implications of their problems are:

"Growing Up in the Black Belt," by Charles S. Johnson.

"Color and Human Nature," by Warner, Junker, and Adams.

"Color, Class and Personality," by Robert Sutherland.

City Within A City

NOV 24 1940

HARLEM: NEGRO METROPOLIS, by Claude McKay. E. P. Dutton & Company, New York. 262 pp. $3.

It was only a few years ago that a Negro family moved into an apartment on 134th street near Fifth avenue in New York and rapidly that section known as Harlem became the great Negro city we know today. It has been a city of pathos and humor, the mecca for thousands of Negroes, the well-spring of cults, and the camp of the opposing forces among the Negro in America.

Claude McKay is one of the better known Negro writers and he looks at the Negro calmly and dispassionately. He knows and loves his people and sees the weekness in the occasional black messiah as well as the strength. He has written a brilliant and comprehensive story of this city within a city and though he does tell about the gay and gaudy side of the city [which too many people think is all there is of Harlem] yet he goes deeper and writes about the numbers rackets, the labor movements, Harlem business and business men, the politician and the scholar.

The author is sincere and vigorous in his portrayal of the Negro not only in Harlem but in America. Critics say that Harlem is not a typical American Negro community, but McKay makes you realize that you can see in Harlem the problems which confront this minority group which is pulled about by politicians and intellectuals.—Patrick Meagher.

Race Prejudice Subject of Talk By Ruth Benedict

NOV 27 1940

In refutation of the theory of Racism, one of the chief issues of contemporary political, religious and cultural conflict, Dr. Ruth Benedict, Professor of Anthropology of Columbia University and author of the recent book, "Race: Science and Politics" will explain "Why Race Prejudice?" at the Authors' Night lecture tomorrow, at 8:30 P.M. at the Bookfair Studio, 133 W. 44th St., N.Y.C.

As Dr. Benedict defines it in her book, Racism is the false belief that one group by nature is congenitally inferior while another group is superior. Her discoveries and contributions to science in the field of Race and Heredity, culminating twenty-three years of research among various primitive and semi-civilized tribes, are the basis of the book. Of her interpretation on the most recent findings upon the races of mankind, Dr. Franz Boaz says, "It is an explanation badly needed in our time."

These theories and their application to present-day events, will form the basis of her informal discussion at the lecture. There will also be open discussion from the floor with the audience participating in the interchange of ideas.

The Bookfair Club, in sponsoring this lecture, urges the public to attend. There is no charge for admission.

"THE LAST STAKE OF EMPIRE." *William Lavarre. (Reynal & Hitchcock.) November.*

"CARVER OF TUSKEGEE." *Norman Beasley. (Longmans, Green.) November.*

"CRUSADER IN CRINOLINE: THE LIFE OF HARRIET BEECHER STOWE." *Forrest Wilson. (Lippincott.) November.*

Dark Difficulties

DEC 1 1940

"IN A MINOR KEY," by Ira DeA. Reid. (American Council on Education, $1.25.)

THIS IS an introductory volume on the colored youth problem prepared by a Negro sociologist for the American Youth Commission. Negro youth have many of the same problems as other American youth but race "throws its shadow across every phase of the Negro youth's life in the North and envelopes every aspect in the South." The Negro population in 1850 was four million—in 1930, 12 million. Employment becomes increasingly difficult since the whites now compete for personal service jobs except as Pullman porters and dining car waiters.

Unemployment among Negro youth is relatively greater and, when employed, wages are much less than for the white youth. Illiteracy among Negroes in 1930 was six times greater than among whites but is definitely decreasing. Provisions for recreation lag badly; too often they are casual and in some places nonexistent. These are a few samples from the book. It is a starkly simple and revealing portrayal of conditions and an excellent condensation of the significant facts.

R. O. HUUS.

Mrs. Martin Johnson's Book

NOV 14 1940

MRS. MARTIN JOHNSON'S autobiographical story of travel in many parts of the world, entitled "I Married Adventure" (Hutchinson, 10s. 6d.), is illustrated by some four score photographs of exceptional quality, many of them African, and almost half the book deals with the photography of big game in Kenya, Tanganyika Territory, the Belgian Congo, and the Sudan. There is, however, nothing very new from that standpoint, for the record is mainly a recapitulation of incidents narrated in the talkie films and writings of her late husband, with whom throughout their married life she shared the discomforts, dangers and pleasures of travel in out-of-the-way places.

It was Carl Akeley who first sent them to Kenya, and it was largely the late George Eastman, head of the Kodak Company, who enabled them to finance their most ambitious East African project; because he "liked dreams and the gumption to carry them through," he subscribed 10,000 dollars and permitted the free use of his name in securing the balance of the necessary money. Later he visited East Africa on two occasions in his middle seventies, and in a talk with the writer of this note made it clear that he had fallen in love with Kenya. One result was to assure the Johnsons whatever funds they needed; another, which is not mentioned in this book, was the acquisition by the Kodak Company of an East African subsidiary.

A readable volume on the whole, Mrs. Johnson's narrative is irritating on account of the frequent avoidable errors. Nobody in East Africa gave the Johnsons anything like so much help as Mr. A. Blayney Percival, known to everyone as the then game warden; but his name is consistently misspelt Blaney. Probably the best of all still photographers of African game, Major Radclyffe Dugmore, becomes "Duggmore"; Lake Rudolf is always "Rudolph"; the Uaso Nyiro river, in the neighbourhood of which the author spent long periods, appears as the Eauso; mention of the Waccomas tribe is apparently intended for Wakamba; and such simple, every-day words as *bwana* and *kanzu* appears repeatedly as *mbwana* and *konzas*. East Africans will also be astonished to read of an individual described as "head of the transport of the East African Army"—in peace time.

There are interesting accounts of the blunders of novices in Africa, of the rewards of the skill, determination, and patience of her cinematographer husband, and of the beauties of many parts of East Africa, particularly of Lake Paradise, north of Isiolo. But this is a book for those who do not know East Africa rather than for East Africans.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

SAPPHIRA AND THE SLAVE GIRL. By Willa Cather. 295 pp. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. $2.50. DEC 8 1940

As a writer whose place in American literature is assured, Miss Cather claims our eager attention whenever she publishes a new book. Always there is the hope that she will again strike a major chord, but this she has not done since "Death Comes for the Archbishop" appeared in 1927. "Shadows on the Rock," which followed it, was notable chiefly for its descriptive writing, one of Miss Cather's gifts that never fails her. And "Lucy Gayheart," which she published five years ago, had the quality of a diminishing echo. The voice was distinctly hers, but we had heard it before in fuller and deeper tones.

It is harder to recognize her in the novel she has now written. Nor does this seem to be so simply because Miss Cather has here employed material she has never used before. In writing "Sapphira and the Slave Girl" she has gone back to her earliest memories, to her childhood life in Virginia, but these, it seems, have not the same intensity that came out of her removal to Nebraska and later, from the strong impact which the history and physical presence of the Southwest had upon her imagination. They, apparently, were the great fructifying influences in her creative life. Her adolescent years among the immigrant pioneers, and, in maturity, the spell of the Southwest, kindled fires in her mind out of which came her most deeply felt work.

But Miss Cather is too accomplished an artist ever to give us work which has not some distinction of its own. "Sapphira and the Slave Girl" is a subtly done if not completely satisfying, study of a domestic situation. The story, set in the period immediately preceding the Civil War, revolves about a wife's suspicion of her husband. Sapphira Dodderidge, aristocratic and well-to-do, was generally regarded to have married much beneath her when she chose for her husband young Henry Colbert, four years her junior and a Virginian of immigrant stock. The bride eased the awkwardness of her social situation by going to live with Henry in the back-country, out of her native county, where she set him up as proprietor of an old mill on a tract of land which she had inherited. She took with her a score of slaves, which were likewise her inheritance, though most of these were later sold in order to improve the property.

Henry Colbert, in spite of the circumstances of his marriage, was an upstanding man, who gave himself unremittingly to his work, and autocrat though she was, Sapphira could not keep him in any mean dominance. It is because Miss Cather makes the quality of sturdy integrity so apparent in drawing her picture of Colbert that it becomes difficult to accept her resolution of the conflict between them upon which the story hinges. And that is why, although the elements in the situation are subtly presented, the final impression with regard to its outcome is an unsatisfying one.

Sapphira had been treating as a favorite a pretty young mulatto slave girl named Nancy, until the suspicion, wholly unfounded, was aroused in her that Henry's interest in the girl was not merely a benevolent one. She never openly charges her husband with misconduct, but sets about correcting the imagined situation in more devious ways. Her trump card is played when she invites for an indefinite stay a young nephew whose wild ways have got him in hot water. His pursuit of Nancy brings matters to a crisis. The girl, frightened and distracted, enlists the aid of the Colberts' daughter, who arranges for her escape by the "underground railroad." She has first put the situation up to her father, who appears unable to take any action except to provide the money for the escape. Yet Miss Cather has shown us the miller's strength, and she has shown us a real and utterly blameless attachment between the master and his servant. With these factors in mind, her conclusion to the situation she has so carefully and convincingly built up seems divorced from any true motivation.

Apart from that crucial point, the story has validity. The strange relationship between the miller and his wife is admirably presented, and there is, as always, Miss Cather's limpid and seemingly effortless prose.

J. DONALD ADAMS.

CONCERNING "BIGGER THOMAS"

By Josephine T. Washington

DEC 5 1940

As the Christmas season approaches, thoughts turn to home and loved ones. The day of the Holy Child should be, in a very special and happy sense, the day of all childhood and youth. But, alas! there are children who have never known the brightness of the Christmastide, nor even the common joys of every day living.

JOSEPHINE T. WASHINGTON

They are victims of poverty and oppression; encompassed by all manner of evil and debasing influences. With reference to this type of young life, Richard Wright wrote "Native Son."

The first reaction to the announcement that Native Son, a best seller, was the work of a young Negro author, was astonishment on the part of the general public and pride on the part of dark-skinned folk.

Somewhat later, surprise and acclaim became, in cases, intermingled with disapproval.

One heard the expressions: "Richard Wright should not have written such a book." "The killing and burning of that girl was so horrible as to keep other white people from sleeping in their beds at night. Then, too, it might tend to the refusal of employment to Negroes seeking work."

Very Powerful Book

A powerful book, but not a nice book. In places the language is indecent; there are "bad" people in the story; open reference to sexual situations.

So a few libraries banned this novel; but others purchased more than one copy to help meet the demand of would-be readers. While some praised and others blamed, the circulation of Richard Wright's book increased by leaps and bounds.

Containing vulgarities of language and description, it is not a "nice" book. It is, however, a record of human beings who had no chance to be "nice."

Of Questionable Value

"What of good", some still ask, "can come from the perusal of such a book?"

But out of a comprehension of sordid lives may there not come an understanding of facts that lead to interest in unfortunate people and efforts to ameliorate their condition?

This remarkable book will long be thought of and talked about. Curiosity satisfied, is there to be an end of interest? Perhaps as a book; but the current of thought, once set in motion, flows on and on, without ceasing.

Can Be Helpful

How can the influence of Native Son be turned to helpful ends? By finding in this book the underlying principles that justify its existence; by accepting Bigger Thomas as a type of the underprivileged young Negro, and doing what is necessary to transform the class; by acknowledging the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, applying these beliefs to the every-day occurences of life.

Bigger Thomas lived in a filthy, rat-infested tenement, similar to those to be found in various sections of our fair land. DEC 5 1940

What can be expected of the children of a family that live in one small room, subjected to the physical and social dangers concomitant with such a state? Bad housing conditions are responsible for the high death rate and low moral standard of many American homes. Parks and other breathing spaces should be in the vicinity of even the poorest homes. Playgrounds fittingly equipped and supervised ought to be easy of access to youths of all sections. Teachers can do much to help in proper development, not only by taking individual interest in the children under their care; but by working together to get the great machinery of the educational system to enlarge the meaning and scope of adult education.

THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA: FROM 1619 TO THE PRESENT DAY

Compiled by Workers of the Writers' Progr.m of the Works Progress Administration in the State of Virginia.

By ETHEL R. HARRIS

RICHMOND, Va.—(ANP)—The book, enriched in fact about the life shared by Negroes in Virginia since the African captives landed in the state, attempts to review the paths of endeavor which Negroes, despite their slave heritage, have pursued. The status of the Negro in this state has been somewhat fluid at times as witnessed by the following facts: (1) Life servitude superseded indentureship because of the Negro's adaptability to work and hem thus making life so severe; (2) Negroes were needed the gradual lifting of restraint from the laws effecting after Washington's dreadful winter at Valley Forge and free Negroes were therefore received into the militia; (3) When he skill which Negroes possessed was discovered they were made to help with homeweaving so that the upper classes could be relieved of manual duty; (4) Naturally they did the work with tobacco, the primary economy of life in Virginia.

In the earliest days the type of "slave row" in which Negroes lived reflected the status of the owner. Some slept on miserable beds, some, particularly children, on the floor. The spinning and other toils were done there. Tfhe owners were always concernd about the health and the health complaints because of the dependence of the owners upon the slaves for work, but of few, if any social factors. The slaves talked, therefore, of freedom and "free land" and attempted underground railroad. Nat Turner and John Brown were important after emancipation. Some suffered from exposure, hunger and dysentary Old slaves were "worked out" because of the rigors of war. Slavery was their rulture, and they could not overcome the inhibitions created therefor.

Because the full measure of citizenship was not granted after the war, the Negro in Virginia has suffered terribly despite the promising political outlook in Reconstruction. Churches and schools arose which have continued as the framework of existence. Before very long there were expressions of art, literature, movements such as the YMCA, and NAACP, dancing and music which grew out of spirituals in the fields when work was heavy.

And there was a fair amount of capital through the secret orders, insurance companies, banks, garage and service stations, specialized businesses as catering and drug stores. Labor has been prominent through the tobacco and shipyard industries and through the domestics. But whether in city or county the Negro in Virginia still looks northward as an escape.

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

Langston Hughes Writes Life Story

FAMOUS AUTHOR TELLS OF ADVENTURES IN PARIS, HARLEM, AND THE REST OF THE WORLD

For fourteen years, since the publication of "The Weary Blues," in 1926, Langston Hughes has been widely recognized as one of the most important young writers in America, white or colored. For much of that time he has made his living exclusively by his pen—probably the only colored author to do so before the great success of Richard Wright. Now Mr. Hughes has written his own story—a story as full of color, incident, vitality, and good humor as the man who wrote it and the life it describes. Called "The Big Sea," it will be published by Alfred A. Knopf on August 26.

Since he is an American, Mr. Hughes grew up thinking of himself as a colored man. But he went to Africa on a freighter when he was twenty-one, and the people there told him he was not Colored at all, but white. He has some Cherokee blood, and some French, and some English-American, and it shows in his appearance. When he lived in Paris a short time later, the people didn't care about those things; he was, and is, a delightful human being, and that was enough for them.

Mr. Hughes was born in 1902 in Joplin, Missouri, but he spent his growing years principally in Kansas, in Illinois, and in Cleveland. His parents were separated—his father had gone to Mexico and engaged in various business enterprises, while his mother remained in the States, worked for a living, and subsequently married a second time. He stayed as a boy with his grandmother in Lawrence, and went to school like other boys, and at twelve years old went to church and was "saved"—a proceeding he never understood at all, but he knew he had to get up and say he was saved or else keep the congregation in church permanently, so he got up and said it.

When he was graduated from grammar school in Lincoln, Illinois, he was elected class poet, for no reason that he could discover, as he had never thought of writing before. But, being a poet, he had to write a poem. He wrote it, and read it at graduation, and everyone applauded. Thus he became a poet.

Then at high school in Cleveland, he really discovered his poetic gift, contributed many pieces to the school publication, and began to collect rejection slips from national magazines. And in the summer he went to Mexico to visit his father, a driving sort of man who was interested only in making money, and who had made it. It was not a pleasant summer; he was glad to go back to Cleveland, to school, and to writing.

And right there is the pattern of the life Mr. Hughes was to follow in the years ahead—travel, and writing. He has travelled in Africa and Asia, as well as Europe and America. He has been a sailor, waiter, a chef, a teacher, a college student, a farm hand, a watchman, an editor, and at least a minor lion in the literary renaissance of the '20's.

He has studied at Columbia and Lincoln University, starved on the Genoa waterfront, mixed on intimate terms in the Colored society of Washington and the literary society of New York. He has met Jim Crow in the South and Mr. James Crow in the North, and no Crow at all in Mexico and Europe.

And he wrote. At first his pieces had no publisher; later they began to appear in "The Crisis," and he became known as a poet among his people. Then Vachel Lindsay saw some of his work, liked it, and said so. It happened this way.

It was in 1925. Mr. Hughes was back from Europe, and was working as a bus boy at the Wardman Park Hotel in Washington. Mr. Lindsay came to the hotel on a lecture tour, and at dinner-time Mr. Hughes quietly laid copies of a few of his poems beside the older writer's plate. That evening, at his lecture, Lindsay told his audience how he had read the work of that hotel bus-boy, that it was good, that there had a man of remarkable talent right there in Washington and hadn't discovered him.

That was a publicity break indeed. Reporters came to interview Mr. Hughes; his story and his picture were printed in newspapers everywhere. He won "Opportunity's "poetry prize, and began to meet important people in the world of literature—James Weldon Johnson and Zora Hurston, Witter Bynner and John Farrar, Alain Locke and Carl Van Vechten. It was Mr. Van Vechten who persuaded him to submit his first collection of poems to a book publisher, Alfred A. Knopf. The book was called "The Weary Blues," and Mr. Knopf published it early in 1926. It went through a number of editions and definitely established its author as one of America's important young poets before he was twenty-four years old. The doors of literary New York and smart Harlem were open to him; the golden twenties, with their excitement and variety and easy money, were beckoning.

Many a young man under those circumstances would have rested on his laurels, had fun for a few glamorous years, and then drowned out of sight.

Not Langston Hughes. He went back to college—to Lincoln University, with a scholarship, where he worked and studied and wrote, where he instigated certain reforms in the make-up of the faculty, and where he took his bachelor's degree in 1929. During this period he contributed pieces to many magazines, and published two other books—"Fine Clothes to the Jew," a second collection of poems, and "Not Without Laughter," a novel. There were week-ends in Harlem too, and summers spent here, there, and everywhere. All the great names of the literary twenties stud these pages—Van Vechten and Bynner, Somerset Maugham, Fanny Hurst, Hugh Walpole, William Seabrook, Isa Glenn, Rouben Mamoulian, Horace Liveright, Miguel Covarrubias, and dozens of other leaders in art, music, letters, every field of human activity. It was all wonderful, and Mr. Hughes writes of it with the zest he must have felt for that life while it lasted.

Then one day he awoke to realize that the Twenties were over, and his own twenties were practically over too. He had a gold medal, four hundred dollars in cash, no more scholarship, and no job. But he could write And he did.

"Literature," he says, "is a big se full of many fish. I let down my ne and pulled."

"The Big Sea" is the story of man who did that pulling, and it sh not only what manner of man but why he has been pulling suc fully ever since.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

Richard Wright's "Native Son" Draws Praise of Gotham Critics

NEW YORK — "Native Son," Richard Wright's newest novel, which was picked as the March selection of the Book of the Month, has received the unstinted praise of every metropolitan reviewer. Most of them agree that the novel, which is the author's second literary effort, is the finest ever written by a Negro about the American Negro.

Charles Poore, of the New York Times, calls Native Son" an enormously stirring novel—a story to trouble midnight and the noon's repose, and to haunt the imagination."

Clifton Ferdinand, in the New Yorker, says it is "the most powerful novel to appear since the Grapes of Wrath," and Lewis Gannett, of the New York Herald-Tribune, declares that "As near as anything can be, it is the Grapes of Wrath of 1940."

Newsweek describes it as a novel of tremendous power and beauty, and Jonathan Daniels, in the Saturday Review, asserts that "There are few pages in American literature that will compare with this story." In Book Review, Peter Morro Jack maintains that Wright is not "merely the best Negro writer, but an American author as distinctive as any now writing. A ready way to show the importance of his novel," he adds, "is to call it the Negro American tragedy."

STORY OF FUTILE FIGHT

"Native Son" is the story of a futile fight waged by a 20-year-old Negro youth against social maladjustment and is more or less designed to prove the author's argument that the average Negro is "whipped before he is born." His main character, Bigger Thomas, who lives in Chicago tenement with his mother, a younger sister and a brother, finally succumbs to the lure of money and inadvertently kills the daughter of his white employer.

Fearing that he will be suspected unjustly of having raped the girl, he decides to dispose of the body by burning it, and finds that he has to chop off the head of the corpse to get it in the furnace. In the end he is tracked down and is liquidated in the electric chair as a social misfit. Before dying, he spends much time philosophizing about his lot.

It is a good crime story told in a gripping style, but it also bears out the rule that Negro literary effort, whether in a play or a book, must have the main characters dying in the end as social misfits if the play or book is to be accepted by the white public as a successful piece of work.

Wright's first book, "Uncle Tom's Children," was published in 1938, shortly after he had won a $500 national short-story contest sponsored by Story Magazine. Friends aided him to obtain a Guggenheim fellowship award under which he was able to complete his latest novel. He is 31 years of age, a former Mississippian, and has lived in Chicago for many years. He is now a resident of New York City.

WRIGHT IN WINDY CITY FOR 'LIFE'

Richard Wright of New York, widely acclaimed author of "Native Son" was guest at the home of Atty. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Keys Sunday where he met a group of admirers of his novel, already a best seller.

Wright commented on the reviews that published throughout the country has given his book. He left by plane Monday for New York, and will leave there on March 22 for Mexico, Attorney Keys stated. Life Magazine brought Wright here last week to make photos of scenes depicted in "Native Son".

Wright Tells How He Wrote Book

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—As a climax to the brilliant literary series of the 135th Street branch of the New York Public library Richard Wright Thursday night told New York how he came to write the sensational novel "Native Son." The auditorium of the library was packed and jammed and the crowd overflowed into the corridors and ante-room. Miss Ernestine Rose, branch librarian presented Henry Seidel Canby well known contributing editor of the "Saturday Review of Literature," and member of the Book-of-The-Month Club selection committee. Mr. Canby, himself, introduced Mr. Wright.

The author told how he had met "Bigger Thomas" in Jackson Miss., in Memphis, and Chicago These cowardly "bullies" were the results of the great unrest, the segregation and exploitation of the Negro in America. More than that, there are white "Biggers Thomases" as well as black "Bigger Thomases," all these are the results of the social and economic dislocations in the world today. The author then pointed out that a celebrated murder case in Chicago furnished the vehicle for his portrayal of the frustrations and resentments of the principal character in his novel.

In the question period, which was presided over by Dr. L. D. Reddick, Mr. Wright made it clear that in these times of crisis the Negro and other submerged groups would turn either to the "right" or "left." He left no question as to his view: "the left."

At the conclusion Mr. Canby stated that Mr. Wright had given a most profound description of the way he came to write the book. Photographers and autograph-seekers swarmped the author.

Richard Wright Heard in N.Y.

NEW YORK — The 135th Street Library presented Richard Wright, author of the widely-distributed and much-discussed 'Native Son," on Thursday.

An exceptionally large audience gathered in the auditorium of the library to hear Mr. Wright, long before 8:30, the time scheduled for his appearance. SRO signs were put up and taken down for not another person could have crowded into the place.

Francis E. Rivers, assistant district attorney; Gwendolyn Bennett, librarian; Eddie Morriw, graduate of Yale's school of journalism; Channing H. Tobias, of the national council of the YMCA, and Lemuel L. Foster of the race relations department of the WPA, were among those present.

Mr. Wright's political connections came in for quite a bit of discussion during the question and answer period. He is, to quote him, "what is known as a card bearing Communist." Henry Seidel Canby, editor of the Saturday Review of Literature, was present and he too spoke for a few moments on this Book-of-the-Month Club selection for March.

THE BIRTH OF KANSAS. By G. Raymond Gaeddert. Paper covers. Lawrence, Kan.: University of Kansas.

A study chiefly of the political problems relating to the establishment of the State Government.

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QUEST FOR EQUALITY

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

By ROBERT S. ABBOTT

Founder, Chicago Defender

INSTALLMENT V

Hampton to me was more than a school in the common acceptance of the word. The paternal interest manifested by the teachers, the true atmosphere of sustained refinement, and the moral and intellectual discipline that was inspired by a faculty of cultured men and women, —all of these things conspired to create the impression of a large family in a big, spacious home.

Though I was blessed in my young days with a spirit that knew no defeat and a body that knew no fatigue, it was not uncommon for me to spend sleepless nights wondering how I would fit in the outside world where prejudice and discrimination dogged every step a black man took.

One day as I sat on my bed trying to develop in my immature intellect some concept which would solve some of the major difficulties of my race, someone tapped lightly on my door. When I opened the door, to my great amazement and confusion stood one of my white teachers. I shall never forget that moment, for it was a Saturday and I had finished my work for the week. This teacher, whose name has escaped my memory, told me that for weeks he had been observing my work and my behavior.

He had come to the conclusion that in spite of my popularity I appeared somewhat bewildered and unhappy. He could assign but one reason for it, that I was meditating too frequently on the fact of my color and the handicaps that usually accompany men and women placed in the same racial category. I told him that I was much more concerned with the plight of my people than with my own personal equation. His friendliness was such as to extract from me all the inner thoughts and impulses to which heretofore I had given scant expression. I told him, among other things, that I could not understand why there should be so much prejudice in a country that was so highly Christianized, and where democracy was preached and represented as the foundation stone of a republic conceived in labor and blood of the common mass.

From the moment of that talk until I left Hampton I was able to show a much more jovial spirit that I had thought possible. I did not only to my people but to the white people as well.

His last argument was in effect that I should so prepare myself for the struggle ahead that in whatever field I should decide to dedicate my services, I should be able to point the light of my school work and participated in extra-curricular activities with zest and pep that finally earned me the title of "Happy Bob."

QUEST FOR EQUALITY

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

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INSTALLMENT VI.

WHAT IMPRESSED ME most at Hampton was the relentless vigor with which the institution carried out its educational commitments. The stressing of industrial training for a race that had just emerged from slavery was, to my mind a very important and necessary step. Hampton's primary objective was, and so far as I know still is, to prepare the Race for the economic responsibilities of its newly won freedom.

While the emphasis Hampton placed on technical knowledge of various trades was ridiculed in those quarters where higher education for the Negro was advocated, the masses of the people were wise enough to realize the practical virtues of industrialism. The people felt, as Booker T. Washington later demonstrated, that a basic foundation should be laid before engaging in the upbuilding of a superstructure. The Negro came out of slavery with nothing on which to maintain his freedom. He was poor property-less and illiterate. To talk about college degrees at that stage of his career was tantamount to putting the cart before the horse

Early Struggle in Chicago

Some of my schoolmates wanted me to shift from printing into music or a teacher's course. Their argument was that I was wasting my time in a trade that wasn't lucrative at best. They said that I would never be able to have a shop of my own and that I would have to spend the rest of my days searching for a job or working for somebody else. Well, that last part of their prediction came to pass. When I finished Hampton, I did look for a job and I did work for somebody else. I knew and expected that. I knew, too, that in due time I should be in a position to have my own shop and do what I wanted to do. Toward that end, I worked, and made sacrifices which, in the eyes of many of my friends, were little short of insanity.

It was not often that I found work. Prejudice in the very union in which I held a membership card had cut my working days to one week a month. Many months some time would pass without my being called. I would go hungry and probably would have starved to death but for the generosity of some folk who would lend me a dime now and then. Even when I did work, I did not earn enough money to pay back rent, repay the loans and eat three meals, too. Consequently I was always broke. Such was my experience during my early days of struggle in Chicago.

Anderson, S. C., Mail
April 18, 1940

NEGRO LITERATURE DISCUSSED BY CLEMSON ENGLISH TEACHER

Lane Says Negroes Are Attempting To Found Individual Literature

By EARL MAZO

CLEMSON, April 18—Prof. John D. Lane, of the Clemson College English Department, tells of the "New Negro" and his place in literature in an article entitled "Negro Writers in College Textbooks" published in current issue of "South Carolina Education."

Pointing to the establishment and growth of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Prof. Lane traces the development of literature produced by Negroes from the turn of the century to 1920, when works of Negro authors began appearing in national American magazines, and the 1930 when those works began to appear in college textbooks.

The Clemson professor says that the "New Negro" is not interested in imitating the whites, but wants to develop a literature of his own. Quoting Langston Hughes, a Negro poet, on this subject, he says: ".....We young Negro artists intend to express our individual dark-skinned selves without fear or shame."

"Miscegenation and fad are two popular contentions for the rise of the Negro's literature," Prof. Lane said. "Many of the Negro writers have more white blood than colored," the article points out, and; "The Negro in literature is still an oddity, and oftentimes his work is greeted from the standpoint of race and not art." These contentions, Lane said, are purely speculative.

Discussing the attitude taken by some of the poets, Prof. Lane showed where the trend was to race-consciousness. "It is my personal opinion that race consciousness is the first barrier the would-be Negro poet will have to remove before he can ever be an artist. No real art ever came from self-consciousness."

The article states that there are upward to fifty Negro writers of verse at present who claim that they have published over 100 volumes. The Negroes who have works published in college anthologies of modern poetry include Claude McKay, Countee Cullen, Lanston Langston Hughes, and James Weldon Johnson. 2

New Bibliography Editon On Vocational Guidance Issued

Northwest Enterprise

New York City, New York—A revised edition of the National Urban League's VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE BIBLIOGRAPHY has just been issued by the League's Department of Industrial Relations. This bibliography contains selected titles of publications dealing with vocational and educational giudance. Copies may be obtained from the League's office, 1133 Broadway, New York City, at 25 cents each.

5/17/40

Seattle Wash.

The only listing of its kind ever issued for the specific use of Negro groups, this bibliography has for many years proved an invaluable aid to the teacher, counselor, social worker, placement and employment interviewer, as well as to the student. Compiled by Miss Ann Tanneyhill, it is now in its ninth edition. Section I is designed for councelors.

This bibliography is issued annually by the National Urban League in the hope that it will be a helpful aid to all persons interested in assisting and advancing the economic status and occupational opportunities of young Americans.

A History of the Negro In Texas to Be Published

BAYTOWN, Texas. — Announcement was made here Thursday evening that a new book, "A History of The Negro in Texas," will soon go to press at Brownsville, and will shortly be placed on sale to the public.

The announcement was made by Rev. A. A. Brown, minister of the Thompson Chapel C.M.E. church in nearby Pelly, one of the tri-cities here in the Baytown district, who is the author of the new book.

According to the author, the text has been passed upon by several authorities in Texas history and has been highly commended by all who have read the text. Rev. Mr. Brown says he hopes to place one in every school and university library in Texas and the South.

The book will contain more than 500 pages and covers every phase of life in Texas history with which the Negro has been connected—political, economic, education, religion, invention, farming, cattle raising, oil (including petroleum and gas) and many other spheres of activity.

BIBLIOGRAPHY 1940

The BIG SEA

By LANGSTON HUGHES

(An Autobiography)

CHAPTER V

ABRUPT ENCOUNTER

Eleven years had gone by and I had not seen my father. Suddenly, one day in the spring of 1919, a letter came from Mexico saying,

"My dear Langston:

"I am going to New York for a few days on a business trip in June. On the way back I will send you a wire to be ready to meet me as the train comes through Cleveland. You are to accompany me to Mexico for the summer.

Your father,

JAMES N. HUGHES"

This letter made my mother very angry. She said it was just like my devilish father—when I got big enough to work and help her earn a living, he wanted to come and take me off to Mexico. Then she began to cry. She said after all she had done for me, if I wanted to go away and leave her—to go ahead, go ahead!

Wanted Mexico Trip

I said I wanted to go to Mexico for the summer to see what the country was like—and my father. Then I would be back in the fall.

My mother was a waitress in a restaurant on Central Avenue, and she and my stepfather were back together. My mother wouldn't be alone if I went to Mexico, so I began to get ready to go. My stepfather thought it would be a good thing and said, sure, go on.

Wins Track Letter

That spring I had gotten my track letter for the high jump and the 440 relays, but I didn't have the money to buy a new sweater, so I packed the track letter away in my suitcase to show to my father.

James N. Hughes, my father! I remembered him vaguely carrying me in his arms the night of the big earthquake in Mexico City when I was six years old.

After that he remained in Mexico while I was in the States growing up while my grandmother died and the house went to the mortgage man, my mother traveled about the country looking for my stepfather or for a better job, always moving from one house to another where the rent was cheaper or there was at least a bathroom or a backyard to hang out clothes.

Turbulent Years

And me growing up living with my grandmother, with aunts who were really no relation, with my mother in rented rooms, or alone trying to get through high school—always some kind of crisis in our lives. My father permanently in Mexico during all those turbulent years, represented for me the one stable factor in my life. He at least stayed put.

"Your father is a devil on wheels," my mother said. "As mean and evil a colored man as ever lived!"

And when I displeased her, she declared I was just like my father.

I didn't believe her. In my mind I pictured my father as a kind of strong bronze cowboy in a big Mexican hat going back and forth from his business in the city to his ranch in the mountains, free—in a land where there were no white folks to draw the color line, and no tenements with rent always due—just mountains and sun and cacti: Mexico. That spring I was anxious to see my father.

Then an unfortunate thing happened in Cleveland. We moved on the first of June. But I left word with the landlady should any messages come for me to send them directly to the new place where we lived. And every morning, to make sure, I went to our old lodgings to see whether there was any word from my father, than in New York.

Missed Telegram

But his telegram came late one afternoon when our former landlady was not at home, so the delivery boy simply stuck it in the mail box, and the woman did not notice it there until the next morning.

The telegram said: PASSING THROUGH AT TEN FIFTY TO NIGHT. BE READY. BOARD TRAIN AT STATION. Signed JAMES N. HUGHES.

That was the night before! The landlady found the wire when I went out there the following morning. My heart stopped beating. Had my father gone on to Mexico without me when he did not find me on the station platform?

There was no further message from him. Had he, maybe, gotten off the train and stayed the night in Cleveland? Then where would he be?

Father at Hotel

I went to the telephone and called up the various colored hotels. The second one I called said, yes, there was a James Hughes staying there, but that he had gone out to breakfast. I told them to tell him when he came back that his son would be right down.

The hotel was on Central Avenue, a block and a half from the restaurant where my mother worked as a waitress. I began to walk down Central Avenue as fast as I could.

When I was about three blocks above the hotel, I saw a little bronze man with a moustache coming rapidly up the street toward me. We looked closely at each other as we passed. Then we turned and looked back.

The man said: "Are you Langston?"

I said: "Yes. Are you my father?"

LANGSTON HUGHES
at the age of twenty-seven.

"Why weren't you at the train last night?" he said.

"We moved, and I didn't get your wire till this morning."

"Just like 'n—s'," he spat out. "Always moving! Are you ready to go?"

"Soon as I tell my mother goodbye."

"I just saw your mother," he said, "waiting table in a restaurant. If she'd stayed with me, she'd have been wearng diamonds."

Words Fail Him

I didn't know what to say about that, so I just stood there.

"I'm going to a barber shop," my father said. "Meet me at the hotel in half an hour. We'll leave on the noon train."

He turned and went up the street. He never said a word about being glad to see me.

That morning, by accident, he had been for breakfast to the very restaurant where my mother was working When they recognized each other, he said: "How are you?"

All my mother said was: "What is your order?"

Refuses Tip

She served him ham and eggs and he left her a dime tip. She told the woman who ran the restaurant to throw the dime into the street.

When I came in, my mother was very angry as she told me this. "But go on if you want to! Go on! Go to Mexico if you want to go."

"Gee, ma! Don't be mad at me," I said. "I didn't pick him out for a father."

Mother Rebukes Son

"Go with him!" she cried over the counter. "Go on—and leave me! Go ahead!"

"I might as well go," I said. "I haven't got any job in Cleveland."

"Sure, go on!" she said. "Hard as I've worked and as little as you care about me!"

By then some patrons had come in and my mother had to wait on them. I sat on a stool at the counter a long time, but she kept walking by me silently to the coffee urns, the steam table, or to the kitchen. I wanted her to say something to me. But finally it was time to go. So I went.

TO BE CONTINUED

BOOK REVIEW

New York Age

OCT 5 1940

New York Sun

"The Books of American Negro Spirituals," **James Weldon Johnson and Rosamond Johnson, the Viking Press.**

Lovers of music will be glad to learn that the Viking Press has just issued "The Books of American Negro Spirituals" by James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamond Johnson. Really two volumes in one, the new edition contains all the material which heretofore was included in two volumes that sold for $3.75. Priced at $2.95, the new edition thus presents an opportunity for more music-lovers to get these masterpieces at a big saving.

The spiral binding in addition makes it very convenient for those who have had difficulty in getting the music to lay flat when it was issued in regular book form.

"The Books of American Negro Spirituals" should be in the home of every Negro.

Saga Of Dr. H. L. McCrorey Rivals Life Story Of Booker T. Washington

Present Head of Charlotte's Johnson C. Smith University Has Never Served Any Other Institution—Has Been Recipient of Many Honors.

By TED POSTON
(Staff Correspondent)

CHARLOTTE, N. C., May 9—The only Negro member of the Board of Christian Education and president of the Presbyterian College Union, which includes fifty-one white institutions, Dr. Henry Lawrence McCrorey, Sr., has scaled America's educational heights in a Saga rivaling that of Booker T. Washington.

President of Johnson C. Smith University here, and the only Negro college head in the Presbyterian Union, the veteran educator was one of ten children of illiterate slave parents.

BOUGHT ARITHMETIC BOOK WITH FIRST 50 CENTS

"I only attended school one month a year from the time I was ten until I was sixteen," he told The Courier reporter.

"I spent the first fifty cents I ever earned for an arithmetic, and studied it for the next six years, mostly at night after a hard day's work, and in our crowded poorly-lighted cabin."

At 23, the self-tutored student entered Biddle University (the original name of Johnson C. Smith University), graduating from the college department in 1892, and the theological school in 1895. An assistant instructor while still a student, he immediately began teaching Latin, Hebrew and Greek after graduation, finally teaching in every department of the school. Later he became dean, and in 1907 he assumed the presidency, a position he has held since.

'During the whole time I have been connected with the school," he said, 'the religious principles of the institution have never changed."

AFFILIATED WITH PRESBYTERIAN BOARD

Originally established in 1867 under the Presbyterian Mission for Freed Men, which later became the National Missions, the university is now affiliated with the Presbyterian Board of Christian Education. Dr. McCrory was appointed to this body as its first Negro member in 1933. He was elected president of the Presbyterian College Union in January, and will preside at the Pasadena (Cal.) meeting next year.

Johnson C. Smith is expected to profit directly from the current policy of the Presbyterian Church of reducing the number of smaller schools and supporting more fully the existing ones. Brainard Institute, a junior college in Chester, S.C., and Ingle Side-Fee Institute in Burkeville, Va., were recently discontinued, and others may follow.

The institution had four white presidents in its first twenty-four years, but its two Negro presidents have served almost a half century as directors there. Dr. Daniel J. Saunders was president for sixteen years, and Dr. McCrorey is now approaching his thirty-fourth year in that position.

Dr. McCrorey had four children by his first marriage. Two daughters, Novella and Muriel, are now in New York, and a son, the Rev H. L. McCrorey, Jr., is pastoring in Roanoke, Va.

In 1916, the educator married Miss Mary C. Jackson, who was for 25 years associate principal of Haines Normal and Industrial Institue at Augusta, Ga., with Miss Lucy Laney.

Terrell Biography Has Preface by H.G. Wells

"A Colored Woman in a White World," the autobiography of Mary Church Terrell with a preface by H. G. Wells, celebrated English writer, has just been published.

On the jacket of the book is a sentence from the preface: "I am proud of my god-child and very pleased to contribute my silver mug to its baptism."

NEGROES NOT UNDER CURSES OF HAM

Fordham University Teacher Refutes Old Myth Based On Old Testament Stories of Noah and Ham.

NEW YORK, Sept. 26. (ANP)—The legendary curse on Negroes through Noah's disrespectful son Ham is explained away in a scholarly article entitled, "Collapse of the Canard of Ham," by Dr. Harry McNeill of Fordham university, in the September "Interracial Review." According to the popular tale, the dark skin of Negroes and other alleged disadvantages are due to malediction by Noah. Dr. McNeill shows the story to be untraditional and unfounded in fact. It is nowhere discoverable in the Fathers of the Church or in the medieval theologians and first makes its appearance in a Protestant writer of the 17th century named Hannemann. However most specialists in racial origins are agreed that pure Negroes are not descendants of Ham and that certain white groups definitely are.

Summarizing the arguments against the canard of a curse on Negroes through a common ancestor Ham, Dr. McNeill states:

"Most ethnologists today agree that African natives represent not one but several very clearly distinct races. Accordingly, common descent from Ham seems ruled out. Moreover, certain peoples, such as the Berbera of North Africa, commonly held to be Hamitic in origin, are non-Negroid. Finally, prevailing opinions definitely exclude all pure Negroes from Chamatic origin.

"From the viewpoint of exegesis of the Bibletest: it will be recalled that strictly, the curse was laid upon only one son of Ham, namely, Chanaan. According to Father Perbal, the prophecy of Noah was fulfilled by Josue who defeated the Chanaanites and reduced most of them to slavery. That seemed to be the end of the matter and ample punishment for what was after all, far from a heinous crime on the part of their ancestor's father.

"Finally, theologians have much to say about original sin and its universal consequences, but never have they made a case for any perpetual malediction afflicting a great portion of humanity. Furthermore, serious authorities among them affirm that if the true descendants of Chanaan (and Negroes do not seem to be simply identical with them!) were subject to a permanent curse, the sacrifice of Calvary abolished it. There the God-Man shed His Blood for all men who have equal claim to the fruits of redemption from the consequences of sin according to their cooperation with Grace.

"Of course, the most eloquent testimony to the true sense of the church on the status of the Negro in the light of revelation, is to be found in the encyclical pronouncements of the supreme pontiff now reigning. Here we have the living church proclaiming to the world the fullness of its age-old wisdom and divine guidance.

"Is it not tremendously significant that the very first encyclical of Pius XIII singled out racism to condemn it as one of the two most vicious errors ravaging the world today? And what of the Holy Father's special paternal affection for the American Negro voiced in his encyclical to the hierarchy of the United States?"

Dr. McNeill concludes: "The campaign for interracial justice and charity waged by Christians must be fought on many fronts. One of them is the battle front of calumny which would place Negroes under a blight of God. A legend so long abuilding is not torn down overnight. We should give it the lie whenever we can. In other words, we can preach against it. But actions speak louder than words. We must so live and act that the canard of a curse on Negroes through a falsely alleged ancestor is buried under an avalanche of good deeds."

Young Tarheels

Despite many a national survey, the U. S. Youth Problem is still far from a national solution. Last week North Carolina tackled a more modest job: some of the problems of youth in North Carolina.

The Rockefeller-endowed General Education Board, University of North Carolina, WPA and NYA collaborated to examine nearly the entire youthful population of eight representative city and country districts: 44,963 Tarheels aged 6 to 25, rich & poor, white & black. Their report, *Paths to Maturity,* written by the university's Sociologist Gordon W. Lovejoy, found that:

▶ More than a fourth of the white children and more than half the Negroes live in families broken by death, separation, divorce.

▶ A good two-thirds of young Tarheels attend church (majority: Baptist) at least once a week. But to many the church fails to bring comfort. Said an unhappy little girl: "I feel the Lord want me to do something and I don't know what it is."

▶ Negro children surpass whites in liking for scientific books, poetry, newspapers.

▶ Despite a State law requiring school attendance until 14, one white boy in nine and one Negro in four quit before that age. Only one white in five and one Negro in 15 graduate from high school; one white in 22 and one Negro in 100 from college.

▶ Nearly half of North Carolina's high-school boys and girls (white and Negro) plan to enter a profession, but only one white boy in 31 and one Negro in 175 realize that aim when they leave school. Few white boys plan to take a job as a servant, 18 times as many actually do so.

Sociologist Lovejoy's prime recommendation to the eight investigated communities: have schools give pupils more vocational guidance. Viewing with alarm "the appalling consequences of permitting practically one-half of our youths to believe that they can crowd themselves into a few occupations," he declared: "It is up to some institution . . . unquestionably the schools . . . to bring the dreams of youth and the realities of available jobs into harmony."

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Newport News, Va. Press
October 16, 1940

Select Volume About Negroes

Local Institute-Sponsored 'The Negro in Virginia' Book of Month Choice

Selection of the Hampton institute-sponsored "The Negro in Virginia" as the Book of the Month club recommendation for October was announced yesterday at the institute where it was received with considerable comment. Institute officials said it "marked a new milestone for Negro writers everywhere.'

The volume is the first WPA book to be honored by the club and it is the second time in recent years that a book about the Negro has been selected by the Book of the Month club.

Hampton institute has filled orders for the book from all sections of the country as well as from Argentine and Chile. Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, president, said the supply of books has not been exhausted and that orders are still being filled by the institute.

In the announcement of the selection the Book of the Month club asserts that "The federal writers' project has done itself proud in its volume on 'The Negro in Virginia.' A study of the colored race in Virginia from the arrival of some 20 Negroes in 1619 to the present day, it combines in happy fashion formal history and a human-interest story. It is an important book which casts much light on its subject."

Dr. MacLean expressed himself as delighted that important critics all over America have praised both Hampton institute and the Virginia Writers' project for their cooperation in producing such a valuable work. Hampton's new president mentioned particularly the review in the "Saturday Review of Literature" by Jonathan Daniels, nationally known editor of the Raleigh News and Observer and columnist of the Nation. Writing in the September 7 issue of this weekly review of literature, Daniels said in part that "This story of the Negro in Virginia, free from both bitterness and prejudice and equally free of sentimentality and pretentiousness, is not only one of the most significant books to come from the whole work of the Federal Writers' project. It is also, I think, one of the most valuable contributions yet made to the American Negro's history, which has been left in darkness even when it was not presented in distorting . . . The method of this book should be model for the other histories which need to be written. . . . The chief fault I found in the book was its geographical limitations, but it provides both the first step and the pattern for a satisfactory history at last of the Negro in America, a history we can all read with interest and to a clearer picture of the past of us all."

"The Negro in Virginia" was the major assignment of a Negro unit of the Virginia Writers' project of the WPA. Sponsored by Hampton institute and produced by a staff averaging a dozen Negro workers, the book is 400 pages in length and consists of 31 chapters, foreword, preface, bibliography and index. Fifty-four photographs—many of them rare prints and others showing contemporary scenes—serve to illustrate in a graphic manner the narrative account of the Negro's contributions to the Old Dominion from his coming in 1619 to the present.

Of outstanding interest also are five original drawings and a historical map of Negro Virginia, the latter reproduced on the inside of both covers of the book. Praised by critics for their appropriateness and artistry, the map and drawings are creations of William Moses Jr., supervisor of the department of building and construction of Hampton institute. Moses is the young institute artist who in 1938 won the contest to select Virginia's exhibit at the New York World's fair.

Dr. MacLean expressed his pleasure also at the fact that the new and widely circulating Negro Digest included two selections from "The Negro in Virginia" in the September-October issue.

Dublin, Ga., Citizen
October 24, 1940

FIRST COMPLETE SURVEY OF ATLANTA NEGRO PUBLISHED

The first comprehensive statistical study of the economic and social status and the community organization of Atlanta Negroes, entitled "The Atlanta Negro," is just off the press and its 136 pages of graphs, tables and explanation contain a wealth of material for further analysis.

Prepared by Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, chairman of the department of mathematics at Atlanta University who was assisted by Marion M. Hamilton, the work also shows how Atlanta's Negro population stacks up with the rest of Georgia, the south and even the nation. The study was sponsored by the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education in co-operation with the National Youth Administration of Georgia.

Studies in population, comparisons of Negro economical status with the mean level of whites, birth and mortality tables, educational advantages and other data are treated in cold statistics and they tell their own story without comment by the editors.

Work was begun on the project in February ,1939, "and thus for the first time in Georgia a comprehensive study of the Negro is available as the basis of reference for libraries, research centers and students who wish to make a broad study of the subject.

With the 1940 census just around the corner, the authors used 1930 census figures in many of the comparisons, especially those of population, but the fact that the study is the first real attempt to treat a subject in which sociologists, economists, criminologists and others in the social field are interested makes it a valuable reference work and probably provides a foundation for future and more up-to-the minute comparisons.

The diversity of subjects treated will commend it to the student, who in the past had no starting point in his research, and to those who have wondered about various social aspects in the past without any authoritative yardstick to guide them.

Based on 1930 census figures, Atlanta had a population of 90,075 Negroes, or 33.3 per cent of the total number living within the city limits. Birmingham had 99,077 Negroes, or 38.2 per cent of the population, and Memphis had a 96,550 Negro population, representing 38.1 per cent of its citizens. New Orleans came fourth with 28.3 pr cent and Washington, D. C., fifth, with 27.1.

The Atlanta population climbed from 512 Negroes in 1810 to its 1930 total. In 1850 Negroes accounted for only 19.9 per cent of the city's population. The greatest percentage of Negroes in Atlanta was in 1870, immediately after the Civil War, when there were 9,929 Negroes, or 45.6 per cent of the 21,787 total population at that time.

From 1860 until 1870 the Negro population of Atlanta increased 412.1 percent, while during the same period the white residents increased only 55.7 per cent. During the same period, Negro population in Georgia increased 17.1 per cent while whites increased only 8 per cent. In the United States, Negroes increased 21.4 pr cent to 27.5 per cent for white persons.

A study of educational facilities avaialable for Negroes and white students from 6 to 18 years of age for the 1937-38 school year showed that the 18,167 Negro youths had 13 schools to 54 for the 36,548 white studentst and that the per capita cost of educating the Negroes was $29.77, while it stood at $91.29 a year for whites.

The school population for the year was 54,715 of which 18,167, or 33.2 per cent, were Negroes. The average grade completed by the Negroes was 6.9, while it stood at 9.1 for whites.

Negroes, however, attended schools more regularly than did white children, with Negro attendance being set at 83.20 per cent, while white attendance was set at 76.87 per cent.

Illiteracy, however, is on the rapid decline in Atlanta and is being eradicated more rapidly in Atlanta than the average decline elsewhere in the south.

In 1930 thre were 7,801 illiterate Negroes, or 10.4 per cent, as against 1,478 white persons, representing only 1 per cent of white population but in 1938 the illiterate Negro total had been reduced to 1,469, or 1.6 per cent.

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY. By J. Winston Coleman, Jr. University of North Carolina Press. $3.

The Nation
OCT 26 1940

The special character of slavery in Kentucky, where the absence of large plantations made it a domestic rather than a commercial institution ("My Old Kentucky Home"), is treated here together with its connection, through the slave trade, with the wider problem of slavery in America. Although primarily for specialists the volume is a particularly readable example of the valuable regional historical studies emanating from Chapel Hill. Photographs, old prints, and facsimiles of old handbills and other documents add both to its charm and to its value.

Conditions On Plantation Country Of The South Revealed In Latest WPA Pamphlet

NOV 9 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Outwardly, the old plantations that flourished for one-hundred and fifty years from Virginia to Texas have changed. The general characteristics, however, have remained the same. There is still large-scale ownership of the land and of the tools of production. Plentiful and cheap labor forces continue, with white farm tenant and laborer families in the Southeast now exceeding Negro families similarly employed. Sharecropping keeps alive many of the evils of the old plantation economy.

These are some of the highlights of "The Plantation South Today", a pamphlet just issued by the Division of Research of the Federal Work Projects Administration. Written by T. J. Woofter, Jr., and A. E. Fisher, this publication is the fifth in a series designed to present simple, factual information on social problems of general interest. "The Collapse of Cotton Tenancy", by Dr. Charles E. Johnson, of Fisk University with Drs. Edwin R. Embree and W. W. Alexander, is listed among eleven other books making up the bibliography of "The Plantation South Today."

In true plantation areas, land ownership is highly concentrated, the WPA social problems pamphlet says, "and the proportion of tenants among farm operators is high. Incomes in such areas are greater per capita than in other Southern Agricultural counties, but lower than in other farming sections of the Nation. There are comparatively few urban and village dwellers and few non-agricultural industries. Families are large but schools are relatively small and poor, especially for Negroes. Health services are markedly deficient. Living standards are near the minimum level."

Problems of relief and rehabilitation have seriously effected the rural South, particularly in the cotton belts. Large families among tenants have been considered advantageous by the plantation landlords chiefly because the younger members constitute a cheap labor supply. During the 1920-1930 decade about 250,000 persons composing the excess labor supply migrated each year to regions where the industrial demand was expanding. After 1930 the industrial labor market began to shrink. Migration was reduced. Meanwhile, the size of plantations dwindled. This situation restricted the demand for labor and intensified the problems of relief and rehabilitation, the latest WPA pamphlet explains.

Tenant Arrangements Listed

The various types of landlord-tenant arrangements which are often confused in the public's mind are made clear in "The Plantation South Today", Renters who rent land outright from the owners are the least dependent of the plantation workers. They receive all the proceeds of their crops with the exceptio no fa fixed rent paid in cash or crops. Next in order of dependency are the share tenants. These workers own their work stock and tools. They must usually be provided with food, fertilizer and a house by the owner of the plantation. Share tenants cultivate a fixed size of land and receive in return a share of the crop, usually more than one-half.

"Still more dependent are the sharecroppers, who furnish the landlord nothing but their labor and must be provided with stock, tools, fertilizer, food and a house." the WPA publication says.

"They receive half their crop in return for working a tract of about 20 crop acres, but all advances made to them for half of the operating expenses, food and other necessities are deducted with interest from their portion by the operator when the crop is sold. There are more of these sharecroppers than any other type of plantation labor None of them have a legal claim on any improvements they make to the land or the buildings, and so they have little desire to conserve or improve them. What they do is drift from place to place, looking for better conditions somewhere else but usually finding that they are much the same or worse. At the bottom of the agricultural ladder are the wage hands, who are hired for a fixed wage, and the casual laborers, who are hired at peak seasons by the day."

"Even when croppers and share tennats clear anything on the year's farming, they usually exhaust their resources within a few months and are destitute again at the beginning of the crop year. The landlord has to advance them credit to finance the new crop and to provide for their living expenses until the crop is sold. The average tenant in 1937 was advanced $85 for his share of crop expenses and $104 to live on while the crop was maturing. Thus the average tenant borrowed around $200," the study continues.

As early as 1934, the WPA made an exhaustive study of labor conditions in plantation regions of the South. This study was concluded with a series of recommendations and the following proposals for solving many of the plantation's problems were offered:

Recommendations Made

1. Retirement of submarginal lands for agriculture.
2. Improvement of conservation practices, including erosion control and reforestation, on lands remaining in agriculture.
3. Promotion of family-sized, owner-operated farms to balance the commercial plantation system and absorb more of the displaced agricultural population.
4. Reinforcement of the family-sized farm by the development of cooperative devices.
5. Promotion of diversified farming.
6. Coordination of production control and soil conservation.
7. Credit reform.
8. Tenancy reform in the direction of (1) promoting ownership and (2) improving the status of tenants and protecting their security through State legislation and written leases.
9. Continuation and expansion of the Federal work programs to care for a larger proportion of the families in need.

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10. Continuation and expansion of the rehabilitation program to aid an increasing number of low-income farmers to establish their farm operations on a sound basis.
11. Equalization of the social services, especially in health and education, by use of the broader base of taxation of the Federal Government.

"The Plantation South Today" the adaptation of housing programs for low-income groups to Southern rural conditions. Specific gains made since 1934 with the assistance of the Soil Conservation Service and the Farm Security Administration of the Department of Agriculture are also cited.

New Bible Tells of Negro Figures In the Scripture

NOV 8 1940

The A. J. Holman Co. of Philadelphia, Pa., publishers of the new Hamitic Bible, recently announced in these columns, has developed and is undertaking a far seeing and noteworthy distribution method in the dissemination of the Hamitic Bible.

Ministers of various churches and denominations have been offered the opportunity of selling the Hamitic Bible at retail to their congregations and others interested. The Holman Company states that it has made the offer by letter to all Ministers whose names and addresses were obtainable and that it would gladly offer the same opportunity to any Minister who is interested.

What makes the offer noteworthy (and newsworthy) is the fact that any Minister or Church Society caring to co-operate on the Holman plan is not only spreading the Word of God in a Bible designed for our race, telling its accomplishments in religion and civilization, and endorsed in the highest terms by the leading divines of all of our denominations, but also making available from profits due to sales a sum which may be used to help pay salaries, make Church repairs, buy supplies, add to Missionary and relief funds, or be put to many other uses.

The Holman Co. states that the Bible has been most favorably received and that many shipments have been made.

Richard Wright Tells In Booklet How "Bigger" Thomas Was Born

NOV 9 1940

By MABE KOUNTZE

BOSTON—(ANP)—"How 'Bigger' Was Born,' an attractive 39-page yellow covered booklet by Richard Wright seems patterned somewhat on the style of the Reader's Digest. But, man, its dynamite.

It came off the press last week from Harper Brothers, New York.

It is no ta "nice" book in the gentle sense because Mr. Wright and most of his readers will find nothing "nice" about the factual existence of the author's earnest exposure of the American double standards—"For Colored" and "For Whites." And Mr. Wright tells all because coming from the deep South, he knows all.

If anyone has any previous conceptions that author Wright is a literary "Uncle Tom" selling his race down the river, the new booklet "How 'Bigger' was Born" is going to change that view entirely. Because the young Mississippi author gives a wordful warning symbolic of the fire and courage of a Hugo, a Dickens, a black Voltaire.

PLOWING THROUGH: The Story of the Negro in Agriculture (Morrow). A really valuable book telling of the part that the Negro is playing in American agriculture and of what needs to be done so that he may better fit himself into the whole scheme of American living. A book that any man of the South should be particularly keen to see, both for its most intelligent and well written text, and for its really admirable photographs.

NOV 8 1940

PERMANENT PEACE by Wil

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Norfolk, Va. Pilot
August 30, 1940

The First Reader

By HARRY HANSEN

A NEGRO AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Paint chopper on a rusty tramp steamer, dishwasher in a Montmartre night club, beachcomber on the Genoa waterfront and hero of the Harlem literati when Negro poets were the pets of sophisticated New York—these are high spots in the experiences of Langston Hughes, prize-winning poet. The story of his roving years is called "The Big Sea" (Knopf, $3). Packed with good stories, it is the amusing and ironical record of how a young man who wanted to write took menial jobs on three continents to make both ends meet.

Rarely have I been more diverted or instructed by a vagabond's confessions. For, aside from the fun, there are pertinent accounts of how an honest Negro lad gets by. Hughes does not write in bitterness here—the book does not have the stinging quality of his social poems. But the truth of his message is apparent on every page. Without moralizing he drives his point home by anecdotes.

* * *

When Paris Feted the American Negro

It is not far-fetched to say that nobody ever has told the story of the American Negro in Paris night club life of the 1920s as Hughes tells it here, nor has anyone ever brought to book the ironical character of the "black renaissance," when New York made Harlem a place of pilgrimage. Hughes knows these events from personal experience and his pages are a contribution to social history.

Hughes was stranded in Paris with $7 when he ran into a Russian dancer named Sonya who "had no mon-nee nedder" and promptly found a room which she insisted on sharing with him. At first Hughes became a doorman for a small club where girls would fight each other by breaking champagne glasses on the edge of the table and attacking with the jagged stems. Then he became dishwasher at the Grand Duc.

About this time Montmartre was full of Negro jazz bands. The Grand Duc was a diminutive "boite de nuit' which had become the rage because Florence Embry was singing there. Florence's stunt was to high hat everybody and this made her highly desirable to know. Hughes found his protector a one-eyed cook whose berserker legend is one of the high spots of the book. The story of the big fight in the Grand Duc, which resulted when Florence waded in because the owner was ejecting an obstreperous dancer who was pregnant, is a classic. Florence later deserted the Grand Duc for her own "boite" and the Duc imported Bricktop Ada Smith, of Connie's Inn, who became the toast of Paris.

When Negroes Were a New York Vogue

Hughes sees the "black renaissance" of the 1920s as a conglomeration of good and evil, of appreciative white folks helping Negro artists and snobbish hangers-on following the fashion. By 1930 "we were no longer in vogue, we Negroes. Sophisticated New Yorkers turned to Noel Coward. Colored actors began to go hungry, publishers politely rejected new manuscripts and patrons found other uses for their money. The cycle that had charlestoned into being on the dancing heels of 'Shuffle Along' now ended in 'Green Pastures' with De Lawd."

Hughes recalls the generosity of Joel and Amy Spingarn, "charming, quiet people," whose services to the American Negro can not be repaid in gold; the great flair for entertaining hundreds of the late A'Lelia Walker, open-handed daughter of the woman whose invention "worked wonders on unruly Negro hair.' He mourns the defection from Negro culture of Jean Toomer; recalls the gumbo suppers of James Weldon Johnson "where one met solid people," and praises the generous advice of Carl van Vechten. He defends the latter's use of "Nigger Heaven" as the title of a book, saying that it alienated only those who did not understand it. He tells, rather sadly, how his collaboration on a play with Zora Hurston broke up a beautiful friendship.

We also learn how an artist feels when he is being supported by a rich patroness. Hughes was on Easy Street while a wealthy Park Avenue woman paid his bills, but soon the obligations became irksome. She wanted his work to be "primitive;" he felt that she hindered the free play of his spirit. He left her in distress. He has much praise for her kindness and for her position as one who has helped many. Her name is withheld.

* * *

Negro Snobbery in Washington

We can laugh with Langston Hughes as he describes his plight in various difficult situations, from which he usually emerged with little more than his coat and pants. But, despite this humor, he gives, by means of personal experiences, excellent sidelights on the difficulties of a young, talented, honest, dark-skinned American in our paradoxical society. He could not share his father's contempt for Negroes. His father had established himself in business in Mexico and eventually married a German woman. He could not understand the snobbery of Negro society in Washington, which withdrew an invitation to his mother because she didn't have a dinner gown and boasted of descent from Southern white families "on the colored side." Rather he took up with the "ordinary Negroes" on Seventh Avenue, New York, who sang songs and laughed out loud. Since he was not coal-black, a soda fountain clerk was willing to serve him if he declared himself a Mexican, which he wouldn't. But, ironically, the full-blood Negroes from Liberia, in Africa, denied that he was a Negro. "You white man," they asserted. He found his best welcome in Central High School of Cleveland, O., where the immigrant children accepted him outright. Here everyone was eagerly interested in the Russian revolution. Hughes does not describe his turn to radicalism, nor his visit to Soviet Russia—that came after the events treated in this book. It is likely that the equal treatment given all races by the Soviet system in those days may have had considerable influence on his views. He is, however, no longer an editor of New Masses, and what his views are today he does not say. But what he tells, up to 1930, is not only his own but American biography.

Book-of-Month Club Selects 'The Negro in Virginia' as Recommendation for October

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.
OCT 25 1940

HAMPTON, Va.—Selection of institute sponsored "The Negro in Virginia," as a Book of the Month Club recommendation for October, marked a new milestone for Negro writers everywhere.

The first WPA book to be so honored, and the second time in recent years that a book about the Negro has been selected by The Book of the Month Club, "The Negro in Virginia" is molding public opinion all over the world.

Hampton institute has filled orders for the book from all sections of the country, as well as from Argentina and Chile President McLean states the supply of the epochal book on the Negro has not been exhausted, and orders are still being filled by the institute The book is priced at $2.50 and postage is paid by Hampton on all books shipped to any point in the United States.

In the announcement of the selection The Book of the Month Club asserts that "The Federal Writers' Project has done itself proud in its volume on "The Negro in Virginia," ($2.50). A study of the colored race in Virginia from the arrival of some twenty Negroes in 1619 to the present day, it combines in happy fashion formal history and a human-interest story. It is an important book which casts much light on its subject."

Dr. MacLean expressed himself as delighted that important critics all over America have praised both Hampton Institute and the Virginia Writers' Project for their cooperation in producing such a valuable work. Hampton's new president mentioned particularly the review in the "Saturday Review of Literature," by Jonathan Daniels, nationally known editor of the "Raleigh News Observer" and columnist of the Nation. Writing in the September seventh issue of this important weekly review of literature, Mr. Daniels said in part that:

> "This story of the Negro in Virginia, free from both bitterness and prejudice and equally free of sentimentality and pretentiousness, is not only one of the most significant books to come from the whole work of the Federal Writers' Project. It is also, I think, one of the most valuable contributions yet made to the American Negro's history, which has been left in darnkness even when it was not presented in distorting. . . . The method of this book should be model for the other histories which need to be written. . . . The chief fault I found in the book was its geographical limitations, but it provides both the first step and the pattern for a satisfactory history at last of the Negro in America, a history we can all read with interest and to a clearer picture of the past of us all."

"The Negro in Virginia" was the major assignment of a Negro unit of the Virginia Writers' Project of the WPA. Sponsored by Hampton Institute and produced by a staff averaging a dozen Negro workers, the book is 400 pages in length and consists of thirty-one chapters, foreword, preface, bibliography and index. Fifty-four photographs—many of them rare prints and others showing contemporary scenes — serve to illustrate in a graphic manner the gripping narrative account of the Negro's varied contributions to the Old Dominion from his coming in 1619 to the present.

Of outstanding interest also are five original drawings and a Historical map of Virginia, the latter reproduced on the inside of both covers of the book. Praised by critics for their appropriateness and artistry, the map and drawings are creations of Mr. William Moses Jr., supervisor of the Department of Building and Construction of Hampton institute Many will remember Mr. Moses as the young Institute artist who, in 1938, won the contest to select Virginia's exhibit at the New York World's Fair.

Dr. MacLean expressed his pleasure also at the fact that the new and widely circulating Negro Digest included two selections from "The Negro in Virginia" in the September-October issue.

Atlanta Ga Constitution
October 6, 1940

First Complete Survey of Negro Here Published

Statistical Study Compares Atlanta and Other Areas.

The first comprehensive statistical study of the economic and social status and the community organization of Atlanta Negroes, entitled "The Atlanta Negro," is just off the press and its 136 pages of graphs, tables and explanation contain a wealth of material for further analysis.

Prepared by Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, chairman of the department of mathematics at Atlanta University, who was assisted by Marion M. Hamilton, the work also shows how Atlanta's Negro population stacks up with the rest of Georgia, the south and even the nation. The study was sponsored by the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education in co-operation with the National Youth Administration of Georgia.

Studies in population, comparisons of Negro economical status with the mean level of whites, birth and mortality tables, educational advantages and other data are treated in cold statistics and they tell their own story without comment by the editors.

Begun in February.

Work was begun on the project in February, 1939, and thus for the first time in Georgia a comprehensive study of the Negro is available as the basis of reference for libraries, research centers and students who wish to make a broad study of the subject.

With the 1940 census just around the corner, the authors used 1930 census figures in many of the comparisons, especially those of population, but the fact that the study is the first real attempt to treat a subject in which sociologists, economists, criminologists and others in the social field are interested makes it a valuable reference work and probably provides a foundation for future and more up-to-the minute comparisons.

The diversity of subjects treated will commend it to the student, who in the past had no starting point in his research, and to those who have wondered about various social aspects in the past without any authoritative yardstick to guide them.

90,000 Population—1930.

Based on 1930 census figures, Atlanta had a population of 90,075 Negroes, or 33.3 per cent of the total number living within the city limits. Birmingham had 99,077 Negroes, or 38.2 per cent of the popuation, and Memphis had a 96,550 Negro population, representing 38.1 per cent of its citizens. New Orleans came fourth with 28.3 per cent and Washington, D. C., fifth, with 27.1.

The Atlanta population climbed from 512 Negroes in 1850 to its 1930 total. In 1850 Negroes accounted for only 19.9 per cent of the city's population. The greatest percentage of Negroes in Atlanta was in 1870, immediately after the Civil War, when there were 9,929 Negroes, or 45.6 per cent of the 21,787 total population at that time.

From 1860 until 1870 the Negro population of Atlanta increased 412.1 per cent, while during the same period the white residents increased only 55.7 per cent. During the same period, Negro population in Georgia increased 17.1 per cent while whites increased only 8 per cent. In the United States, Negroes increased 21.4 per cent to 27.5 per cent for white persons.

Families in Wards.

Ward by ward distribution of Atlanta Negroes and white persons also make an interesting comparison, according to the 1930 division, which follows:

Ward	Negroes	P. C.	Whites	P. C.
First	19,358	33.3	38,749	66.7
Second	2,865	12.1	26,754	87.9
Third	36,745	60.2	24,277	39.8
Fourth	9,240	22.3	32,169	77.7
Fifth	20,696	39.1	32,266	60.9
Sixth	1,171	3.5	32,032	96.5

A study of the family size also shows some results which uninformed persons are ordinaily prone to exaggerate. For instance, although the Negro population is about one-third of the total, the following comparison with native white families is enlightening:

Family Size	Negroes	Whites
Four	3,053	8,100
Five	2,045	5,125
Six	1,364	2,883
Seven	874	1,526
Eight	561	802
Nine	291	419
Ten	173	191
Twelve or more	98	69

A distribution of Negro and white families according to wards showed the following:

Ward	Negro	White
First	5,104	8,170
Second	704	4,866
Third	9,326	5,022
Fourth	2,300	7,993
Fifth	5,749	8,031
Sixth	267	8,154

Educational Survey.

A study of educational facilities available for Negroes and white students from 6 to 18 years of age for the 1937-38 school year showed that the 18,167 Negro youths had 13 schools to 54 for the 36,548 white students, and that the per capita cost of educating the Negroes was $29.77, while it stood at $91.29 a year for whites.

The school population for the year was 54,715, of which 18,167, or 33.2 per cent, were Negroes. The average grade completed by the Negroes was 6.9, while it stood at 9.1 for whites.

Negroes, however, attended schools more regularly than did white children, with Negro attendance being set at 83.20 per cent, while white attendance was set at 76.87 per cent.

Illiteracy, however, is on the rapid decline in Atlanta and is being eradicated more rapidly in Atlanta than the average decline elsewhere in the south, as the following table shows:

Year	P. C. Atlanta	P. C. Georgia	P. C. South	P. C. U. S.
1910	20.9	36.5	33.3	30.4
1920	17.8	29.1	26.	22.9
1930	10.4	19.9	19.7	16.3

In 1930 there were 7,801 illiterate Negroes, or 10.4 per cent, as against 1,478 white persons, representing only 1 per cent of white population, but in 1938 the illiterate Negro total had been reduced to 1,469, or 1.6 per cent.

Number Employed.

A total of 26,332 Negro males were employed gainfully in Atlanta in 1930 as against 56,669 white persons, and a comparison of the major distributions also is listed in the study as follows:

Employment	Negroes	Whites
Manufacturing and mech. industry	9,272	17,685
Domestic and personal service	6,813	2,192
Transportation	4,656	5,265
Professional service	741	4,200
Trades	3,702	15,746

More Negro women were working during the same time that white women, the totals being 24,285 Negroes to 22,836 whites. A comparison of distribution of the major employments as between Negroes and whites follows:

Employment	Negroes	Whites
Domestic and personal service	21,869	2,335
Manufacturing and mechanical industry	1,111	4,035
Professional service	799	3,137
Trades	292	2,951
Clerical	190	9,152

Out of 37,887 Negro women 15 years old and over, 24,114, or 63.6 per cent, were gainfully employed in 1930, and of the 18,654 married women, 10,538, or 56.5 per cent, were working.

Income by Families.

Other figures were cited to show that the average mean income for 431 heads of families studied was $564.27.

The median value of the 3,653 Negro owned houses in 1930 was $2,653 each, while the comparative value of white owned houses for the same time was given at $6,129 each. A total of 19,509 Negro families rented their homes, paying an average of $12.69 a month each, while the average monthly rent paid by Negro tenants in the United States was $13.04. The average rental paid by white persons in Atlanta is $30.67 a month.

There were 14,092 unemployed Negroes in Atlanta in 1930, of whom 7,785 were male. This compared with 14,729 white persons, of whom 8,774 were male. In 1937 there were 11,689 unemployed Negroes, of whom 5,829 were male.

Social Benefits.

The following comparative table shows how Negroes and whites divided benefits of the state social security program in 1937:

Type of Service	Negroes	White
Aid to blind	52	21
Aid to dependent children	37	241
Old-age pensions	692	616
Unemployable relief	2,315	1,886
Direct relief, as of November 1, 1937	1,534	1,106

Although Negro population in Atlanta is only about 30 per cent of the total city population as of 1937 estimates, births are slightly over 50 per cent of the total births, and the death rate is almost equal to the whites.

Rate of Births.

In 1937 there were 2,169 Negro births as compared to 4,006 white births. Deaths totaled 2,140 for Negroes, with a population of 109,205, as against 2,341 white deaths out of a population of 209,986.

A comparison of Negro and white births for the years 1930 through 1937 follows:

Year	Negro	White
1930	1,808	3,493
1931	1,761	3,552
1932	1,966	3,474
1933	1,924	3,178
1934	1,939	3,578
1935	1,958	3,583
1936	1,904	3,702
1937	2,169	4,006

Illitimate births for the years 1935, 1936 and 1937 showed the following:

Year	Negro	White
1935	376	98
1936	366	73
1937	427	77

Deaths by Disease.

In 1936, 2,511 Negroes died from infectious diseases, as compared to 5,115 white persons, and in 1937 Negro deaths from the same causes were 2,871, as against 7,326 whites.

A total of 1,049 Negroes had syphilis in 1937, while 1,102 whites were infected, and in 1936 the Negro total was placed at only 763, as compared with 1,021 whites.

Tuberculosis was more prevalent among white residents for the years 1936 and 1937, with 318 Negroes and 332 whites having the disease in 1936 and 247 Negroes and 286 white persons in 1937.

Crime statistics failed to give a complete picture, but a comparison was carried as of January, July and from October 5 to October 20, 1937. It showed:

Month	Negro Arrests	Total Arrests
January	1,090	2,336
July	1,291	2,718
October (Oct. 5 until Oct. 20, 1937)	534	1,057

Critics Give Journal and WPA Volume High Praise

Norfolk Va.

Dr. MacLean Is Pleased With Recognition Given

Staff Correspondence

OCT 26 1940

HAMPTON INSTITUTE, Va.—new milestone for Negro writers, and a magnificent tribute to the literary quality of the current WPA series of historical volumes highlight the selection of "The Negro In Virginia" by the Book-Of-The-Month Club, for the October reading of its far-flung members.

The volume, sponsored by Hampton Institute is the first WPA book to be so signally honored, and the second time recently thata a book about the Negro has been selected by the Club, the other being Richard Wright's, "Native Son."

Announcing its selection, the Club said: "The Federal Writers' Project has done itself proud in its volume on "The Negro In Virginia." A study of the colored race in Virginia from the arrival of some 20 Negroes in 1619 to the present day, it combines in happy fashion formal history and a human interest story. It is an important book which casts much light on its subject."

PRESIDENT PLEASED

Dr. Malcoln S. MacLean, president, expressed pleasure that critics throughout the nation have praised the institute and WPA for the valuable work they produced through cooperative efforts. He mentioned a review of the volume by Jonathan Daniels, editor of the Raleigh (N.C.) News Observer, and columnist for "The Nation" magazine, which appeared in the Saturday Review of Literature; and two selections from the book published in the new magazine "Negro Digest" for the September-October issue.

Orders for the book have been filled at Hampton Institute from all sections of the country, also from Argentine and Chile in South America. The supply, however, has not been exhausted and orders are still being filled.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

WPA Study Traces Growth of Negro Baptist Church to Present Eminence

RICHMOND, Va.—The rise of the Negro Baptist Church from the early struggles of mission-aries working among slaves to its present strength, embracing 17,743 ministers, 22,081 churches, 3,750,000 communicants and property valued at $103,465,800 is recounted in the inventory of church archives in Virginia entitled "Negro Baptist Churches in Richmond," just issued.

This publication stems from the Historical Records Survey Project of the Virginia WPA. Russell S. Hummel, WPA State Administrator, says that an average of four persons mere employed on mork-relief rolls for a year in preparing this inventory of church archives fir publication.

A Negro by the name of Quassey is cited in the WPA Archives of Virginia as the first communicant of his race to have joined the Baptist church. In 1743 he was one of the fifty-one memfers of the Baptist Church at Newton, Rhode Island, thee publication asserts.

"Although the first known Negro Baptist was a member ot the Rhode Island Church, there were Negro Baptist churches in the South for more than a quarter of a century before they began to be constitu'ed in the North and about a half century before the first church of its nind was planted in the west," the Inventory of Negro Baptist Churches in Virginia continues.

When the first African Baptist Church was organized in Boston, Mass., in 1805, it was not only the first Negro Baptist church in the North, but was also the only independent Negro Church in that area with the exception of the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, which had a Negro Rector.

The inventory of church archives cites the case of many slaves in South Carolina who as early as 1695 could read the Pible distinctly and great numbers of them who were engaged in learning the Scriptures. While English planters generally neglected religious instruction among the slaves, the missionary movement laid a broad foundation which was responsible for "the epic quality of the rise of the Negro Baptist Church from primitive animism in Africa to the present impressive organization."

The first Negro Baptist church in America was established between 1773 and 1775 at Silver Bluff, Ga. This church went into exile when Savannah fell to the British in December 1778 The Rev. David George, and about forty other slaves moved from Silver Bluff to Savannah to seek protection. There they won their freedom in exchange for an alliance with the British.

The earliest known Baptist Church for Negro communicants in Virginia is said to have been the Gilfiold Baptist Church, organized at Petersburg in the year 1774. The first Baptist Church of Manchester is the only Negro Baptist Church that was organized before 1865 within the present bounds of the City of Richmond.

The inventory also recounts the founding of the Richmond African Baptist Missionary Society on April 28, 1815, and summarizes the eminent career of Lott Carey, one of the co-founders of this Society.

Mainly, the inventory records the individual history of eight Baptist Conventions in the Old Dominion State and tolls a brief story of each Richmond Church affiliated with its respectice Convention.

BOOK REVIEW

"THE CORRECT THING, To Say, To Do, To Wear," by Charlotte Hawkins Brown: published by the author, Sedalia, N. C.

As a book of etiquette Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown has written a complete treatise on the subject. Simply stated and clearly defined it may be of value to many young persons as a handbook on correct behaviour.

It is written no doubt, out of her experiences and contacts with the students at her school.

Each chapter deals with a phase of etiquette—outlined for easy reading and absorbtion. As regulations for students with which the author is in daily contact this book will be especially valuable but in some instances there are parts which would not apply to the ordinary rank and file Negro boy and girl.

The book may be obtained from The New York Age for $1.00 plus 10 cents postage.

"HARLEM: Negro Metropolis," by Claude McKay: E. P. Dutton, New York.

Claude McKay, author of "Harlem: Negro Metropolis," has written what started to be a survey of Negro life. The book, as far as it goes, is well written, interesting reading and a partial picture of life in that section.

To white people it may be giving new information—or clarifying some of that of which they have heard. Also they will acclaim it because it is written by a man who has done other good work in the literary field.

After reading the book any Negro who has lived in Harlem or had any great contact with it will know that the author only considered a part of the section of which he is writing. Actually the books is a series of thumbnail sketches of some few individuals and some few types of businesses carried on in the area. One man cannot "probe the causes of the Negroes failure" or success without questioning a cross section of the entire community.

While Claude McKay has set down in his own style some of the personalities and parts of Harlem and has shown some of its varied sections this reader does not feel that he has presented a clear picture of us as a whole.—G.W.H.

MY VANISHED AFRICA, by Peter W. Rainier (Yale, $2.75). Born and educated among the Zulus, a crack shot and horseman who later became a prospector and mining executive, the author knows many phases of African life and writes about them with clarity and vividness. This is one of the best books on Africa since Sir Harry Johnston. Fine maps and a glossary of Zulu and South African Dutch terms.

A Book on Harlem

Harlem: Negro Metropolis, by Claude McKay. New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. 262 pages. $3.

THE LATE MARCUS GARVEY, picturesque "Provisional President of the Empire of Africa," once remarked bitterly: "The Negro intellectual is the greatest fraud and stumbling block to the progress of the race." Garvey is gone, his once potent Universal Negro Improvement Association is now little more than a debating society; but his bitter indictment of Negro intellectuals has been revived and amplified in "Harlem: Negro Metropolis." And the author, Claude McKay, poet, novelist and prominent member of Harlem's intelligentsia, excels even Garvey in his attacks on the educated leadership of his race. For McKay, like Garvey and a growing number of prominent Negroes, believes that segregation, voluntary or enforced, is essential to the full development of the Negro minority in America. And he sees in the Negro intelligentsia an hysterical and unreasoning opposition to any form of Segregation (cap S).

The Negro masses, the once radical McKay contends, desire such separatism. They realize instinctively, he declares, that group pride, strength and self-respect cannot be developed without it. But their efforts to improve their social, political and economic lot within the confines of their own communities have been repeatedly vitiated, McKay believes, by the intellectuals' constant tilting with the

windmill of Segregation. And the Communist Party, aiding and abetting this tilting, has contributed to keeping the Negro masses confused. The Communists, McKay charges, oppose all forms of Negro segregation for reasons of their own. They know that they cannot control any all-Negro organization, so they dangle the bait of Social Equality before the intellectual to make him oppose the legitimate aims of the masses. "They [the Communists] know that by professing a belief in social equality without actually practising it, they can rip the clothes off an educated Negro and leave him naked but contented."

Garvey probably had reason to hate the Negro intellectuals. More than any other leader of his race, he was elevated and acclaimed by the masses and excoriated by the intelligentsia. But the seeds of Garvey's destruction were contained in his own megalomaniacal character and in the fundamental weaknesses of his Back-to-Africa program. It is true also that the Communists have ruthlessly opposed and desperately sought to capture every all-Negro movement not already dominated by one of their multiple "fronts." But these two facts, and others marshaled by McKay, do not necessarily prove that segregation, voluntary or enforced, would improve the lot of the black masses. And the weaknesses of McKay's theory become apparent in the "popular leaders" he so uncritically exalts—the Sufi Abdul Hamids, the Ira Kemps, the minor Garveys.

Sufi and Kemp were leaders of the 125th Street job boycott movement. Undoubtedly they did a community service in focusing attention on the deplorable Harlem employment situation. But neither attained the stature accorded by McKay, nor was either destroyed (as he insists) by a "well financed" alliance of Negro intellectuals, Communists and legitimate trade-unionists. Sufi's open anti-Semitism (denied by McKay, who asserts that he was only "anti-Jewish") and Kemp's open racketeering (his Harlem Labor Union, Inc., constantly shook down white employers and forced them to join his "union" and pay "dues" along with their underpaid and unprotected Negro employees) made their collapse inevitable. But McKay exalts this duo while assailing Frank Crosswaith and other veteran trade-unionists who have attempted to bring the Negro workers into the recognized labor movement and to fight their battles there. Ironically enough, in view of his relentless attacks on Negro intellectuals, the only successful Negro labor leader he cites is A. Phillip Randolph. And Randolph is not only an intellectual and a Socialist, but was also aided by white Socialists and intellectuals in organizing the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Sufi and Kemp were more colorful, however, and McKay, the poet and novelist, is intrigued by the spectacular, bizarre and exotic side of Harlem. Father Divine, Faithful Mary, Madame Fu Futtam, Reverend Becton and his Consecrated Dime all come alive in a way which will thrill devotees of this conventional picture of uptown Manhattan. And the author is unexcelled in his vivid description, his arrangement of contrasts, his depiction of lights and shadows. In short, McKay the poet is still superior to McKay the new and questionable social scientist.

The novelist is not alone, however, in his theory that segregation is necessary and desirable as a solution to the Negro problem. W. E. B. DuBois and others have been converted to this view after years of struggle for its antithesis. But McKay himself, in his 1937 autobiography, "A Long Way from Home," lamented the fact that there was "little group spirit among Negroes. The American Negro group is the most advanced in the world . . . but it sadly lacks a group soul." The masses know that they must remain Negroes, but perhaps they would like to be Americans, too.

TED POSTON

A Spokesman's Story

NOV 18 1940

Dusk of Dawn: An Essay Toward an Autobiography of a Race Concept, by W. E. Burghardt Du Bois. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company. 342 pages. $3.

FOR MORE THAN SEVENTY YEARS, Dr. Du Bois has been acutely conscious of being a Negro. For about fifty of those years he has perfected himself in the difficult tactic of doing something about it for himself and his fellow Negroes. Born in New England and educated far beyond most white men, Dr. Du Bois has spent his life teaching, leading and writing. For twenty years as editor of The Crisis he met the problems of Negro life in the United States with a vigor that was stimulating to progress and hateful to reaction.

The New Republic

In the present book, Dr. Du Bois tries to explain his own life in terms of his race and to explain the problems of race in terms of his own biography. During his youth he believed that education would eradicate prejudice. Then he realized, much against his will, that the black world must continually fight for its freedom. But fighting violently, he always felt, meant defeat even in victory, and the First World War brought him this realization poignantly. He has also realized that the exploitation of black men by white men for the economic profit of the white men has been responsible for the taboos, restrictions and oppressions against black men by white men. "World-wide industrial imperialism is responsible for the domination of white Europe over black Africa and yellow Asia." "The echo of this industrial imperialism in America was the expulsion of black men from American democracy, their subjection to caste control and wage slavery."

New York Times

Dr. Du Bois, however, does not believe that the American Negro can safely exchange his present chains for those of Communist dictatorship. His solution is rather that of a consumer's coöperative Negro society. He stresses the change in modern times from a producer's to a consumer's economy and urges the Negroes to exercise the one choice that is unrestricted for them, the choice to buy and consume what they please, to organize themselves and demand respect by their purchasing power. He denies that this is an advocacy of Negro segregation, so hateful to the equalitarians among Negroes. Dr. Du Bois feels strongly that the Negro must stop thinking of the days of thrift and private production and prepare himself gradually to play his part and protect his rights in the economy which is changing every day from individualist to communal effort. He points out that the class struggle is not a solution for the Negro, because he is discriminated against and excluded by both classes, and he believes that "the split between white and black workers was greater than that between white workers and capitalists." He wants the Negro to enter the white labor movement wherever he can and to fight for his rights within that movement, but also to bring to it forms of organization of his own wherever practicable, together with his own economic pressure as a consumer.

Dr. Du Bois believes that the extraordinary advance of the Negro people since emancipation "proves that down among the mass, ten times their number with equal ability could be discovered and developed, if sustained effort and sacrifice and intelligence were put to this task." His own life and theories as described so ably and stimulatingly in this book are proof of the potentialities of the educated Negro, if such proof was ever needed by people of intelligence.

M. R. WERNER

Best American Novels.

DEC 4 1940

Thomas Wolfe's posthumous "You Can't Go Home Again" is an authentic work of art. With "The Web and the Rock," which it continues, it forms a gargantuan masterpiece which is one of the great American novels. Obviously autobiographical it records a series of impacts upon the life, mind, and emotions of its hero and in its pages he grows into an adult, spiritually and emotionally, before the reader's eyes.

Chicago Times

The hero comes to see life philosophically, but clearly, and he sees into, not thru, people, events, contemporary thought. In a floodlike richness, the late 1920s and middle 1930s sweep thru the pages and at times Thomas Wolfe's prose is incandescent poetry. For the really intelligent, not for every one.

Like Ernest Hemingway's great "A Farewell to Arms," his "For Whom the Bell Tolls" has a background of war; but it is about the human overtones of war, about the elemental passions—love, fear, courage, hatred, cruelty—all raised to their nth power by war, rather than about war itself.

In four days with a guerrilla band in the Spanish civil war, led by a young American who is to blow a bridge, there is a lifetime of emotion in human relationships, one of the tenderest of love stories side by side with [at second hand] one of the most horrible records of mass cruelty in our language. No one who reads this book will ever forget it. For serious thinking readers.

WORLD-TELEGRAM
NEW YORK, N. Y.
DEC. 12, 1940

The Lost Zoo, by Countee Cullen. (Harper, $2.50.)

WORLD-TELEGRAM
NEW YORK, N. Y.
DEC. 12, 1940

Africa.

My Vanished Africa, by Peter Rainier. (Yale Univ. Press, $2.75.) Boyhood in Zululand, from the Boer War through 1919.

Beyond the Smoke that Thunders, by Lucy Pope Cullen. (Oxford, $3.) Six years in the Rhodesian copper fields. Illustrated by Julian Brazelton.

Best Union Man Is Negro Unionist, Says Author of New Book on the South

A strong plea for trade union unity is made by Dr. Katharine D. Lumpkin in her new book, "The South in Progress," just completed in collaboration with the Labor Research Association. Dr. Lumpkin is a native southerner and the co-author with Dorothy Douglas of the standard work on child labor "Child Workers in America."

In a chapter on "Problems of Trade Unionism" Dr. Lumpkin reviews the special features of southern trade union developments and especially the importance of the Negro as a union man. Her book gives concrete examples of the ways in which color lines have recently been broken down in the fires of trade union battle against the common exploiter. She quotes a southern organizer of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee as saying: **"When a Negro joins a union, he means it . . . the best unionist I have ever seen is the Negro union man."**

Scoring the exclusion policies of certain craft unions, Dr. Lumpkin declares that **"If the principle of no discrimination were consistently put into practice throughout the labor movement in the South, a main obstacle to strong trade unionism would have been overcome."**

Reviewing the friction in the labor movement involved in the struggle between craft and industrial unionism, Dr. Lumpkin concludes that, in the South at least, even so "there has been more united action than conflict. This is true although separate central bodies of AFL and CIO came to exist in states and localities. There have been outstanding instances of joint work for the federal wage and hour law, progressive labor laws in the states, candidates for political office, and for organizing unorganized workers. Joint actions like these have kept the way open for eventual organizational unity."

"The South," she concludes, "is the last place in the world where there should be division in labor's ranks. The magnitude of southern problems demands the broadest popular attack upon them. Skilled and unskilled workers, manual and professional, Negro and white, conservative, liberal and left-wing, trade unionists of long experience and fresh new recruits—if southern people are to make real progress they cannot afford to have any left out."

In a River Town

WATCH US GROW. By Harry Hamilton. 306 pp. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company. $2.

ANY ONE who read Harry Hamilton's rollicking story of shanty-boat people on the Mississippi ("Banjo on My Knee") is bound to be interested in having a look at his new novel. "Watch Us Grow" is marked by the same fine story-telling as the first novel—you simply have to go on reading to see what happens next, and plenty does. The Mississippi still plays a vital part its monstrous whims and humors affecting mightily and unexpectedly the lives of the people who live on its banks. But the new story is not so comic as the shanty-boat yarn, for it is concerned with a different class of people—the civic-minded citizens of Aleta Ark., situated at a bend of the Mississippi. The comedy is of a less obvious brand, based on the acute class-consciousness of the Aletans, the snobbishness of its leading family of Moreheads and the introduction into their midst of the Yankee Randalls.

To an outsider Aleta was a drab little town of about 1,000 in the years just before the World War. To its citizens, who were characterized by a very ardent local patriotism, it was a pretty fine spot. They were even proud of their leading citizen, Noah Morehead, who owned most of the town and bossed all of it—though they knew that his business methods were high-handed and at times crooked. There were three distinct classes in Aleta—the Aletans proper, who lived between the river and the levee; the Negroes, who worked for them; and the squatters, who somehow managed to exist in ramshackle houses which they had built behind the levee in Niggerhead Swamp. The moneyed Moreheads were in a class by themselves.

Buford, the eldest and cleverest Morehead son, decided it would be a smart thing to sell the squatters the land on which they lived, though it belonged to the government and not the Moreheads. He imported Dave Randall to be the Yankee go-getter who would sell the land and take the rap if the scheme didn't go through. Dave and his wife and their two grown children, Judy and John, saw the new job in Aleta as a golden opportunity, for they knew nothing of the shady Morehead background. The sordid little town is pictured graphically through their eyes, and their gradual enlightenment as to Morehead methods and morals is an interesting process. As a secondary plot, Judy Randall's red-headed prettiness roused a romantic flare in the handsome rake who was the Morehead's second son, and also in Dr. Wayne Price, who was engaged to the Moreheads' only daughter.

The land-development scheme didn't work out as either Buford or Randall had planned, and it was the mighty Mississippi which had a hand in the change, with Mrs. Tiller, one of the squatters, playing a close second. The upset was so completely topsy-turvy that it suggests the patness of an O. Henry ending. It is quite within the possibilities and also nighty neat.

The best character drawing in the book is that of the town itself. The people are most interesting for the part they play in the life of Aleta. And it is for olly good story-telling that 'Watch Us Grow" is chiefly to be recommended.

BOOK REVIEWS

Read More—Learn More

By GERTRUDE MARTIN

"Black Labor Chant," by David Wadsworth Cannon Jr. . . . The Association Press . . . 317 Madison avenue . . . New York city . . . 1939 . . . 56 pp.

This short book of poems published posthumously was collected by the author's mother and illustrated by his friend, John Borican. Their author, David Wadsworth Cannon, died at the age of 28 in 1938. At the time of his death, Mr. Cannon was enrolled in the graduate school of Columbia university in pursuance of a doctor of philosophy degree. He had received his achelor of science degree at Hillsdale college in Michigan and had been nominated by that school as Rhodes scholar from Michigan. A year after his graduation in 1932 he received the master of arts degree in psychology at the University of Michigan. During the following four years until enrolling at Columbia, Mr. Cannon served on the faculty of Virginia State college.

Those who knew David Cannon were captivated by his versatility, his brilliance and the warmth of his personality. His poems are a reflection of these qualities that set him apart in whatever he attempted. They are outstanding in poetic technique and in conception. The subjects are chiefly those dealing with race prejudice but there are also a number of lyric poems included.

There is no hate and little bitterness in Mr. Cannon's poems on the race question. They are keenly humorous, tinged with satire or grimly pointed, and testify to the saneness of their author's approach to the problem of prejudice.

It would be impossible to choose one or two poems from the number of excellent ones included in this volume. We particularly liked "World Weariness," "Native Intelligence" and Canyon Pain." "Black Labor Chant" can be unreservedly recommended for its beauty and emotional appeal as well as for the skill with which Mr. Cannon fashions his poems. It is with a feeling of distinct loss that the reader lays down this book from the pen of a man who had so much to give to his race and to the artistic world.

"The Sequel to the Pied Piper of Hamlin and Other Poems," by Joseph S. Cotter Sr. . . . Published by Henry Harrison . . . 79 Fourth avenue . . . New York City . . . 1939 . . . $1.50 . . . 93 pp.

This volume of Mr. Cotter's poems does not have the merit of his earlier "Collected Poems" which was published in 1938. At his best Mr. Cotter shows care and precision in his writing but little inspiration. In the writing of the present group of poems the author's muse seems to have deserted him. They are lacking in rhythm and feeling as well. Many of these poems are dedicated to Mr. Cotter's associates and friends in Louisville where he has served as teacher and principal in the colored schools for the last 50 years.

Negro Has No Stake In the Imperialist War

A NEGRO LOOKS AT WAR, by John Henry Williams. Workers Library Publishers. 32 pages. Price 3 cents.

By Theodore Bassett

Every friend of peace, both Negro and white, should read this new pamphlet. It is a powerful weapon, an important addition to the growing arsenal of anti-war literature. Once again as in 1916 the war-mad imperialist ruling class of the United States of America and its henchmen are spreading their hypocritical pro-war slogans among the Negro masses.

But the simple story of the Negro war veteran, Joe Williams, and three other Negro soldiers, their experiences in the training camps in America, on the battlefields of France, and on their return home gives the lie to these honeyed words from the camp of imperialism.

"Forget your special grievances," "Close ranks to make the world safe for democracy," "Eyes lifted to the hills," were the glittering slogans promising better things to come to the Negro people after the war. Joe was one of those who rallied behind these slogans of the war-makers.

Joe and his buddies meet all kinds of insults and humiliations before going to France. And once there, they meet King Jim-Crow and Lynch Terror in all their regal splendor, organized by the General Staff of the American Expeditionary Force.

The pamphlet reprints a document issued by the American Staff Headquarters entitled "Secret Information About Black Troops." This document, for circulation among the French, contained all the stock white chauvinistic slanders against Negroes.

Only Joe and Sam come out alive. When they return home they meet the same lynch terror and race riots. Sam is killed. Joe becomes a union man. He joins the Communist Party and becomes a Communist leader.

At a South Side Chicago Peace Rally in December, 1939, Joe speaks about the crucial problems facing the Negro people as a result of the outbreak of the war between the Anglo-French and German imperialist rivals and the attempts of Chamberlain, Daladier and Roosevelt to convert that war into a joint, world-wide, counter-revolutionary war against the U. S. S. R.

The pamphlet closes with the slogan, "The Black Yanks Are Not Coming."

This pamphlet is written in the most popular style. Its distribution must not be left to a matter of routine. Systematic canvassing in the neighborhoods, organized sale by community organizations to their memberships, special street sales, are a campaign basis. While the main appeal is to the Negro communities, every effort should be made to bring the pamphlet to white workers.

The Negro masses need this pamphlet because it deals directly with the special problems of Negroes. Perhaps there might be some who think that the white workers and progressives do not need such a pamphlet. If so, let them ask themselves the following:

Can the white workers or progressives effectively carry out their tasks in the fight to keep the United States out of the war without an understanding of the special problem of one of the most important allies of the working class and the peace forces, the oppressed Negro nation?

Of course not. Moreover, the historical mission of the working class is to free not only itself but all exploited by capitalism, hence the absolute necessity for the advanced workers to understand the problems not only of the working class itself but those of its allies if they are not to descend into the petty bourgeois morass of the narrow interests of the working class itself. This must be kept in mind in connection with the Negro people.

The Negro masses of the United States constitute a powerful potential force in the struggle for peace, democracy and socialism. Hence the importance of a wide sale of the pamphlet among Negroes and whites as a part of the task of rallying these forces in the struggle for peace.

Foreigners Who Fought for the South

FOREIGNERS IN THE CONFEDERACY. *By Ella Lonn. Illustrated.* 566 *pp. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.* $5.

FOUR portraits illustrate this large volume and attract attention at once to its historical material. The frontispiece shows Camille Arnaud Jules Marie, Prince de Polignac who was born near Paris, placed his sword at the service of the Confederate States of America at the age of 29, and rose step by step until he became a major general in the Confederate forces. The second picture is of Major Gen. Patrick Ronayne Cleburne born in County Cork, Ireland, a lawyer in Arkansas at the outbreak of the Civil War. The next is of the Prussian-born Colonel Heros von Borcke, chief of staff to General J. E. B. Stuart, and, says this author, possessed of "many of the qualities which made his superior officer so romantic a soldier." And the fourth illustration is the portrait of Colonel August Forsberg, distinguished Swedish engineer in the Confederate Army. They were all in a sense knights-errant, four among many such who fought for the Southern cause. But if they and their fellows were the most conspicuous and picturesque of the foreigners who served the Confederacy, they were by no means the only ones, nor probably the most important. The rank and file of the Confederate forces contained many thousands of foreign soldiers; "there is hardly a country or clime of the earth, even a remote and small portion of the globe, but had its representatives."

There were "solid companies of Germans enlisted from several States of the Confederacy, a French legion, a Polish legion, companies of Italians, Spaniards and Mexicans, a European brigade, entire regiments of Irish." In spite of the incompleteness of records, Dr. Lonn has been able to compile a list of foreign companies which fills six and a half pages; and it takes eleven pages to list the foreign officers in the Confederate armies and more than a page to list the foreign-born aides on the staffs of Confederate generals. Moreover, two foreigners held portfolios in Jefferson Davis's Cabinet and a number were engaged in diplomatic missions for the Confederacy. Foreigners had obvious advantages as blockade runners. Foreign women served the Confederacy.

Dr. Lonn, who is Professor of History in Goucher College, presents a great mass of material with the introductory remark that these "facts may prove surprising" and the concluding hope that they will not be ill received. "The story of the heroism and endurance of 9,000,000 people who could sustain an unequal struggle against 20,000,000 for four long years," she says, holds "glory sufficient and more than sufficient" for both foreign and native-born Southerner. Aside from its arresting quality as historical research her book, with its vivid personal stories and excerpts from contemporary records, is also full of a lively interest.

DEATH IN THE VIRGINS. *By R. H. Barbour.* 340 *pp. New York: D. Appleton-Century Company.* $2.

The scene is the island of St. Thomas, and the narrator, Jim Mawson, is a writer—or perhaps one should say that he has been a writer. He has lived in the tropics so long that he has lost any inclination for literary labor, but he still tries to keep up the fiction that he is working on a book. Because he knows all the gossip of the island, he proves a valuable assistant to the detective who presently takes on the task of solving an extremely puzzling murder case—a case in which Mawson has more reason to be interested than he knows when the investigation begins. The story is a bit sentimental, especially at the end, but there are good reasons for that, and few readers will quarrel with the author because of it since it does not interfere in the least with the plot. Mr. Barbour usually writes stories for boys, but this book shows that he has another string to his bow and knows how to use it.

'Porgy' Author Succumbs to Heart Attack

DuBose Heyward, Famed Charleston Novelist, Dies at 56.

TRYON, N. C., June 16.—(AP)—DuBose Heyward, novelist and poet, died of a heart attack in a hospital here late today. He was 56 years old. Heyward was the author of "Porgy," "Mamba's Daughters" and other novels of negro life. Several of his novels were dramatized.

Heyward came to Tryon this afternoon from his summer home in Hendersonville to be treated at a hospital. He was stricken on his way back to Hendersonville. The novelist was a native of Charleston, S. C. The body will be taken there for funeral services at St. Philip's church on Tuesday.

DU BOSE HEYWARD

Once the Heywards were among the richest planters of South Carolina. It was a good fortune for literature and young Du Bose Heyward that the family joined the ranks of the New Poor after the War Between the States. At 9 he was a newsboy; as he was growing into manhood he got a job as checker in a cotton warehouse. His work was on the Charleston wharves. There his eyes and ears were keen for the ways and speech of the Negroes on the waterfront. There he discovered a strange, various, primitive and passionate world. "Porgy" and "Mamba's Daughters" are thronged with characters all alive.

Porgy, the crippled beggar, and his goat must be somewhere in New York now, but who can think of Charleston, full of memories as she is, without thinking of Catfish Row? Porgy, the mystic, the mysterious, seems to have some hold upon unseen powers. "Roll, Jordan, Roll" is adapted from the spiritual to the world of chance. Porgy, the crap shooter, invokes the gods, immanent in the dice: "Oh, little stars roll me some light! Roll me a sun an' moon!" Maria of the fish-fry, Mamba Hagar, a whole gallery of humans laughter and song and sorrow; folklore and superstition, dance and storm, religion and murder, are in Du Bose Heyward's books. His prose was well organized and flexible. In "Skylines and Horizons" he painted life in the Great Smokies and the South Carolina Lowlands in verse simple and distinguished without pose or literary theory. He was an honor to his State and to American letters.

THE PHIILOSOPHY OF BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

A BOOK REVIEW ARTICLE

By L. R. Scarborough, D. D.

THE author of this book, Dr. Boone, is an experienced pastor of an outstanding church in Fort Worth, Texas. He is trained in college, university, and theological seminary education. He is recognized as a scholar, author, and religious leader among his people, and has been honored with the D. D. and LL. D. degrees from recognized institutions. He is a historian and writer of wide reputation and has written several books.

This book is a biography of Booker T. Washington and a sketch of a number of Washington's associates in his great work of building Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, such as Miss Davidson his secretary and afterward his wife; Emmett Scott, his secretary and colaborer; Dr. George W. Carver, one of the greatest of Negro scientists; Dr. J. R. E. Lee, a great teacher and educational leader; and other notables.

In portraying the lives and labors of these educators and administrators, there is found a running history of Tuskegee Institute. It tells of his faith and struggles and of his marvelous achievements in education, in oratory, in leadership of his people, and in the uplift of a great race. The buildings he erected, the endowments he raised through the gifts of wealthy men, and the powerful influence that he has on race relationships and understanding cooperation among the whites and the Negroes make a charming, thrilling, and interesting story.

I think it is one of the most thrilling books I have read in ten years. I wish the leaders and people of both races could read this book and see how God can take a slave boy, save him, call him, train him, use him, and lift him to the very heights of influence and power under the most difficult environment found anywhere in history. This book is more than a bigraphy of Washington and a history of the Institute. It is a philosophy of constructive, cooperstive, Christian education and of the development of a race under difficulties.

I commend this book, with its author ,whom I know very well, to the careful reading of multitudes of our people everywhere.

The Philosophy of Booker T. Washington, by Theodore S. Boone, D.D., LL.D. Published by the author, $2.25.

NEGRO STUDIES INCLUDED IN NEW INDEX OF RESEARCH WORK

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 13—Some seventy reports on the Negro in American life are included among the works listed and summarized in the new volume of the Work Project Administration's "Index of Research Projects."

Subjects covered in Volume Three include health, institutional care, crime, land tenure and agricultural problems, housing, urban employment, population, vocational education and poverty and dependence. Reports on the various studies are available from the federal, state and local agencies and institutions which sponsored the projects, conducted for the most part by needy unemployed paid from WPA funds.

"The enthusiastic reception of the first two volumes in this series by scholars in universities, foundations and agencies of government offers substantial evidence of the value of these research activities," said Corrington Gill, assistant commissioner of Work Projects. "The quality of these scientific contributions is apparent from the fact that a large portion of the project reports cited in this volume have been published as articles in leading scientific and scholarly journals. At the same time several thousand trained research workers who would otherwise have been destitute have been provided useful employment, experience and training.

"Studies in Syphilis: Acquired Syphilis in the Negro Preliminary Report on the Statistical Method" and "Neurosyphilis in the Negro" are the titles of two companion reports summarized in the Index under sections concerned with human pathology and therapy. The two reports, covering the findings of a WPA project in the Shoemaker Clinic, Cincinnati, Ohio, analyze the data on the duration of the disease from the time patients entered the clinic.

Other reports dealing with health conditions among Negroes include reports of cancer surveys in New Jersey and Hartford, Connecticut; dental care in Georgia; tuberculosis in urban centers; communicable diseases in Louisville, Ky.; and reports on statewide health projects in the Blue Grass state.

"Georgia's Blind", title of the report on a WPA project sponsored by the Georgia State Department of Public Welfare, gives the number of blind in the state as 8,292, of whom 3,049 are Negroes. About 60 percent of the Negro blind persons are reported to have some formal education, the WPA Index says.

"The Relation Between Housing and Delinquency in New Jersey" is the title of one of the many crime reports summarized in Volume Three of the Index. The report, including a study of the dwellings of both Negro and white delinquents, indicates that the majority of these persons are inadequately housed. One third of the housing of white delinquents was found to be unsatisfactory, while over half of the housing of Negro delinquents was unsatisfactory. Other reports listed in the WPA Index cover the problems of crime and delinquency in Chicago; Sedwick County, Kan.; Newark, N. J.; Elizabeth, N. J.; and Philadelphia, Pa.

A survey sponsored by the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, includes the situation of Negro farmers in a project report entitled "Business Cycles and Age of Operators as Factors in the Progress of Tennessee Farmers." There were fewer changes among Negroes than whites with respect to tenure and accumulation of wealth, the Index states in its summary of this study.

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BOOK REVIEW

Synopsis and Criticism

FROM Chapel Hill, the University of North Carolina Press recently released "THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE NEGRO," by Charles S. Mangum Jr., and "THE NEGRO IN CONGRESS" (1870-1901) by Samuel Denny Smith.

In the study, "The Legal Status of the Negro," the author has reviewed the statutes and cases concerning the relations of white and black people since the Civil war. The treatise is a statement of the law as it has been found on the law books and interpreted by the courts all over the nation.

The first chapter, "Who Is A Negro?" indicates how far from unanimous the courts of the various states have been as to the proportion of African blood necessary to classify as a Negro.

Treats Many Subjects

In other chapters the author gives treatment to such subjects as libel and slander, civil rights, education, property rights, involuntary servitude, labor, jim crow laws and regulations, charitable and penal institutions, marriage and domestic problems, mob domination and violence, race discrimination in the selection of juries, race prejudice of jurors, the right of efficient counsel, the Negro as a witness, prejudicial remarks, punishments and sentences and the voting franchise.

The laws as discovered in these various sections of the country reflect the social conditions and patterns of the peoples themselves. The migrations of the 20's and the 30's had their influence upon these sections of the country to which the Negro moved and the impact is often seen in the laws that were enacted to meet the problems. Although most of the unfairness and the discrimination is still in the south, many cases are in sections of the country where there are few Negroes.

Preface

The author, in his preface has this to say:

The problems are manifold and are not to be easily served. A slow and thoughtful approach seems to be demanded by the circumstances which surround the relations of the Negroes with the dominant race. The white man must recognize that the Negro has fundamental rights and must try to understand that he wishes to obtain them. All the petty discrimination which he is called upon to endure make it just that much more difficult to worg out a system of co-operation in interracial relations. This spirit of co-operation must be the mainspring of any successful effort to improve the conditions which exist today. The difficulties are many and varied, but it cannot be said that they are insuperable."

This book, based on firsthand material, will give the answer to such questions as: "Who Is A Negro? What progress has been made in providing equal educational facilities for him? What problems are created by the statutory provisions of the Civil Rights Act and many other questions.

The Negro In Congress (1870-1901) written by Samuel D. Smith of Mississippi State College for Women is a study of the careers of twenty-two Negroes who served in Congress during and immediately after Reconstruction. The author, in evaluating the influence of these Negro leaders, uses contemporary newspaper articles, correspondence, personal interviews, friends and acquaintances, and speeches made on the floor of Congress, as determinants.

Of the twenty Negroes who served in the House of Representatives, eight were from South Carolina, four from North Carolina, three from Alabama and one each from Virginia, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi.

Senator Hiram Rhoades Revels of Mississippi was a member of an insignificant committee on Education and Labor and made several reports to the Senate from the committee. Only three minor bills were introduced by him and none of them were passed. He presented 18 petitions, many of them commendable in that they asked for removal of political disabilities of individuals.

Blanche K. Bruce, who was the only Negro in American history to serve a regular term in the United States Senate, was born a slave in Virginia. As a slave, he was a pet and saw none of the horrors of slavery. Instead, he did as he liked and was educated by a tutor. Bruce, in his early career in the senate, is often referred to as the "silent Senator" as he made very few speeches, introduced few bills and entered into few debates. A little later when he seems to have become accustomed to the routine of Congress and to have gained confidence in his speaking ability, he took a more active role in the Senate, and served on some important committees.

Just as Mississippi was noted for having two Negro Senators, likewise, was South Carolina conspicuous for its eight representatives. Rainey, DeLarge, Elliott, Cain, Small, Raisier and Murray all hailed from South Carolina.

Unsuccessful Aspirants

The writer deals particularly with those Negroes who were Congressmen during Reconstruction and in the period after Reconstruction. A chapter is also devoted to unsuccessful Negro aspirants for Congress.

There are many and conflicting opinions as to whether the Negro Congressmen accomplished anything during their stay in Congress and if not, why they failed. The writer concludes, that from the data and facts examined, it seems clear that the Negroes failed to accomplish much worth while in Congress during the period under survey. "They were all race-conscious and supersensitive, as was perhaps unavoidable under the circumstances. With some exceptions this resulted in a neglect of their white constituents. Further, they served to keep alive race fricion, and they were used as a political football by Republicans, Northern Democrats and even on occasions by Southern Democratic factions."

As a whole, the author has attempted to prove that the Negroes who served in Congress during this period were superior to those of their race who were active in local, county and state government. They were well educated, had previous political experience, were of considerable mixed blood, had acquired some money and were often aided by their white friends.—Thomas A. Webster.

Negro Architects Date Back Almost 200 Years

By PAUL R. WILLIAMS

THE ARCHITECTURAL BOOK COMPANY recently published a book describing the early houses of Maine and New Hampshire, and described many of these houses as being designed and built by a "clever Mulatto" named Hopestill Caswell dating back as early as 1743. This is probably the earliest record of the participation of Negro architects in the development of the Americas. While our next contribution was not made under the caption of architect, it played a very important part in the design of many of the city houses in New Orleans and Charleston which are so famous for their wrought iron craftsmanship which was furnished almost entirely by Negro slaves. The beauty of this iron work is still regarded for its artistry; and during the last ten years there has been quite a revival of this style of residential architecture, both in Florida and California.

In a young country like ours the growth and development is rapid and changes in modes of living, methods of business and styles of architecture follow each other with great rapidity. To keep up with these rapid changes it takes a well trained mind. Consequently there was a gap in the training of Negro architects until the beginning of the twentieth century when we begin to hear of the work of R. R. Taylor at Tuskegee. A little later Vernon Tandy graduates from Cornell School of Architecture and is commissioned to design the mansion for Madam Walker.

Then there is a period of individual architects in various sections of the country meeting with fair success until about 1930 when the Federal Government and large Foundations began making substantial contributions for Negro schools and housing, and in many instances Negro architects were employed to handle these projects.

Designing of Schools

Probably the most outstanding contribution as a group has been the designing of school and institutional buildings. Howard University is the most recent development in which all of the buildings were designed by Negro architects. Five buildings, including the beautiful new Founders Library were planned by Albert I. Cassell and the most recent addition to the campus, the Men's Dormitory, was designed by Robinson and Williams.

Tuskegee also boasts of their use of race architects, beginning with the era of R. R. Taylor. W. A. Hazel, Albert Cassell and now Louis Fry, one of the younger men of the profession, have been placed at the head of Tuskegee's architectural future. Mr. Fry has also been employed as architect for several institutional projects in the south.

Many schools and institutions throughout the south have employed Negro architects for individual buildings with the result that it has been found that they take a deeper and more sincere interest in the construction of these buildings and are more mindful of producing as much building as possible for the amount of money being spent. With the vast amount of money being allocated to hospitals, clinics and schools the Negro architect will be a great help in directing the economic expenditures of these funds.

The most recent field of large scale development in which Negro architects are participating, however, is the planning of government sponsored housing developments. Notably among these is the Langston Housing Project in Washington, D. C. judged one of the three most outstanding housing projects in America at a recent exhibit held in New York City. The Langston project was planned by Robinson, Porter and Williams, architects.

Other housing projects either being planned or under construction at this time include a large project in Chicago in which George Jones and Walter Bailey are associated. Harlem River Houses included John Wilson as one of the architects. The Andrew Jackson development in Nashville was planned by McKissack and McKissack, architects. Julius Gardner is planning a project in Charleston, West Virginia.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

You Meet Such Interesting People

PRESS PASS. By Kathleen Ann Smallzried. 340 pp. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. $3.

ONE of the reasons that Kathleen Ann Smallzried has written this book is that she has wanted "to prove that newspaper work is not exactly what the movies say it is." Nor is it, she adds as a minor point, "all the business of being foreign correspondents." Well, it isn't all the business of being a star reporter, either: it doesn't consist of a series of marvelous scoops and preternatural insights, which lead by a straight, sure path to best-selling novels or some other summit of renown. Perhaps you can't believe it, but newspaper work in a small city isn't even necessarily followed by glamorous success in a world metropolis. Some reporters just go on doing their work without ever coming to be famous or important, and a lot of the work isn't even exciting. But they wouldn't ever want to do anything else in the world.

The author of "Press Pass" gives her readers enjoyable proof of all these points. She has written a candid, gay, illuminating book about her experiences as a reporter in South Bend, Ind., and she has struck a note of real distinction in her veracious portrayal of an ordinary newspaper career. She loved it, of course but not because she was personally at the top of the heap. No, she even loved being, as she says, Nobody. She fell contentedly into her place in the newspaper machine. When she was told to rewrite her stuff she did it without rebellion. When one of her feature assignments was to "take a photographer and find the hottest place in town" she trotted forth to see if the thermometer registered more than 104 in the shade at any sizzling corner; she knew that "hot" referred to temperature, not night clubs. She did obituaries for seven years and she reported sermons and welfare work. But when she was doing women's clubs and their lectures she'd get a chance every now and then for a good interview. She had her little part in some big crime stories. When she looked back on her years in The News-Times city room she realized that she had covered or at least worked on almost everything but fires.

Kathleen Ann Smallzried started her newspaper career at 18, when she was a senior in high school. Two years later McCready Huston, who was then managing editor of The South Bend News-Times, gave her the cub reporter's usual job of obituaries and she called up fifteen undertakers every day. Her first feature story had to do with State care of feeble-minded children. But it was the paper's Spelling Bee Contest which first landed her on the Front Page ("I knew, when I was given the assignment, that I'd wind up there, but I never could believe it. * * * I've made it at last!"). She brings some amusing memories from her women's club reporting. But it was the club work, too, which gave her the never-to-be-forgotten interview with Amelia Earhart, and she records that here with a fresh and lovely sincerity.

It is this fresh sincerity which gives its greatest interest to her chronicle of varied experience. Kay Smallzried was eager and energetic and ready for anything; she never was, she never pretends to be, callous or blasé. In her big kidnapping story here she blazes with indignation over respectability's publicity-hunting and pretense. When she had something to do in the reporting of a peculiarly dreadful murder she sets down its facts with conciseness and pity. She giggles a bit over sports enthusiasm (although she shares it, of course) in South Bend, which is in Notre Dame's backyard—or vice versa. And when she asked for time off to hear Carl Sandburg read his poems (this was at the obituary stage of her career) she was overwhelmed with happiness and fright when she was told to cover the lecture.

NEW BOOKS

By ARTHUR E. KING
Author of The Population Problem and Several Articles on Economics and Sociology

AN ECONOMIC DETOUR: A History of Insurance in the Lives of American Negroes. By M. S. Stuart. 335 pp. with introduction, photographs and appendix. New York: WENDELL MALLIET AND COMPANY. $3.

This is an important book by the vice-president of Universal Life Insurance Company of Memphis, Tennessee, who is also the historian of the National Negro Insurance Association. It deserves a wide circulation because of the valuable material it contains—materials hitherto not available to students of Negro affairs. Narrowly considered, AN ECONOMIC DETOUR is financial history, but it is much more than that as it touches many phases of Negro life, and includes the struggle within the group over the prospects, value and policy of what is called "Negro Business."

The publication of this work, by our only commercial publishers, is in itself evidence of the necessity for our own organizations to undertake projects that would otherwise be neglected. Some idea of the value of Mr. Stuart's work, in my opinion, is by comparing it with Professor Abram Harris' "The Nego As Capitalist" with the resulting opinion that the work of Harris is slight and jejune in comparison.

Has No Illusions

The author is under no illusions about the waste involved in maintaining this hybrid economy for he realizes that "the Negro, admittedly the weakest of all American groups, economically naked just three-quarters of a century ago, is expected to establish a separate economy, within the general economy, without the protection of any distinct political economy." Nevertheless, Negro business is essential in the Negro's battle for survival except there is a revolutionary change in American psychology or political and economic organization. An economic detour must be made by Negroes because on the highway of general American business they are barred.

But this detour has other limiting factors such as geographical limitations and population distribution in addition to giant financial combinations, cumulative business wisdom, cumulative wealth, mass production, etc. Hence the field open to Negroes is limited and the hazards great. Because of historical and other reasons life insurance is a field that has offered many opportunities for Negroes and out of that field some great organizations have grown.

Mr. Stuart traces the growth of the early church relief societies dating from 1787 which were succeeded by the fraternal societies. In his chapter on the fraternal societies he has rendered great services to the public because no critical attitude has been taken of those societies by the Negro press. He has shown the waste, the politics and unsound finances, the graft and hollowness. Yet he admits it has resulted in some good. And the undertakers have had their ghoulish pofits. One cannot write temperately of this tribe.

Is Accurate Record

This brings us to the important part of the book—the history, finance and personalities of the Negro life insurance companies. Here is the record of the companies, treated regionally and individually and the work of the National Negro Insurance Association. You learn that at the end of 1937, Negro companies had $34,000,000 worth of insurance in force and a premium income of $12,000,000; that about $1,500,000 was the capital stock of eighteen companies; and that seven of the companies had paid over $1,000,000 in dividends to the end of 1938; and that there were ten mutual companies of varying degrees of strength.

The story of the failure of Perry and the Standard Life is treated with as much detail as the steady rise of the North Carolina Mutual. In addition to the history of individual companies, there is also the full story of liquidations.

Of great interest to New Yorkers is the story of the great efforts made by Dr. P. M. H. Savory, Dr. C. B. Powell and the late Mr. John W. Duncan to gain entry in 1927 for The Victory Life Insurance Company under the stringent laws of the State of New York. After this achievement it became necessary for these gentlemen to undertake the re-organization of the company after the mal-administration of Mr. Overton.

This unique plan evolved in the brilliant re-organization and conversion of The Victory Life into Victory Mutual Life Insurance Company will stand for a long time as a patriotic work of the highest order and skill.

This is a "must" book for student as well as layman as it clearly shows how much the race can do in business when there is proper leadership. Mr. Stuart deserves great praise for his work and WENDELL MALLIET AND COMPANY have added an important title to their list.

"Native Son" Adapted For Screen by Wright

Daily Worker
7-30-40
New York

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United Production consists of Orson Welles, John Houseman, his theatre aids and Herman J. Mankiewicz, the movie producer, who outbid both Eddie Dowling and Marc Connelly for the right to stage the best seller on Negro life.

Their contract with Wright and Green calls for writing of the play as soon as possible and presentation of the work on the West Coast late in fall with Welles as director.

Green is well qualified to assist Wright in writing the drama not by virtue of his Pulitzer winner "In Abraham's Bosom," but also because of his other works on Negro life. He is an outspoken liberal and has been under fire several times at Chapel Hill, N. C., where he teaches on and off for the University of North Carolina.

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There is a possibility that the noted Negro star, Paul Robeson, may play the part of Bigger Thomas.

Slave Cabin Is Scene Of Writing Of Play Based On New Novel

Birmingham Age-Herald
8-4-40

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BY HOKE NORRIS

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.—(AP)—In a rough cabin that once was the home of slaves, Paul Green and Richard Wright are dramatizing Wright's novel, "Native Son," a story of Negroes.

The young Negro author of the year's sensational novel came to Chapel Hill for the collaboration at Green's suggestion.

Wright brings to the dramatization the knowledge of one who has seen at first-hand the operation of forces which lead to such brutal crimes as he describes in his novel.

Green contributes the dramatic artistry of a trained playwright, the artistry which in 1927 won him the Pulitzer prize for "In Abraham's Bosom."

Naturally, the story of Bigger Thomas, Wright's hero, is presenting problems, which the writers hope to surmount in time for Orson Welles and John Housman to produce the play in New York next season.

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Also, Green and Wright are considering the use of music to heighten the dramatic effect. However, Green said only one scene could be easily given a musical background, and the need for music was mostly technical, to fill the actionless blanks between scenes.

"When you have a great number of scenes" (as "Native Son" is likely to have), said Green, "you need something like music to carry the audience from one scene to another."

"Native Son" will be Green's fourth New York appearance. His first three plays—"In Abraham's Bosom," "The House of Connelly" in 1931, and "Johnny Johnson" in 1937—were written by him alone.

His novel, "Laughing Pioneer," published in 1932, has been dramatized and may be produced on Broadway; and he said he had in mind an original drama which he hopes would also be presented soon. So, conceivably, these and "Native Son" may run simultaneously.

Despite his success in Broadway, in Hollywood and in his own state, Paul Green is still in many ways the unaffected farm boy he was when he first entered the University of North Carolina, where he now teaches in the drama department. He still talks in the drawl of the section from which he came—Hartnett County, in Central North Carolina, on whose sandy loam he farmed. And he still likes to farm. At his home he raises "corn and potatoes and things like that."

"We did that at home," he said, "and I'm glad to get back to it. It always did kind of irk me to have to buy things from a grocery store."

Green is 46. He was graduated at the university in 1921—after a period of war service—and did graduate work there and at Cornell. He taught philosophy at the university for a while but went to the drama department when he found that the teaching of many different philosophies might be robbing him of one of his own.

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"The last time I was in Hollywood," he recalled, "I had an assignment, and I hired me a hotel room and got me a dictaphone and finished it, and then went and put it on their desk and asked 'em could I go home, they said I could, and I came home."

Famous Author Tells of Adventures in Paris. Harlem In New Book

Chicago Defender
8-17-40

For fourteen years, since the publication of "The Weary Blues," in 1926, Langston Hughes has been widely recognized as one of the most important young writers in America, white or Negro. For much of that time he has made his living exclusively by his pen—probably the only Negro author to do so before the great success of Richard Wright. Now Mr. Hughes has written his own story—a story as full of color, incident, vitality, and good humor as the man who wrote it and the life it describes. Called "The Big Sea," it will be published by Alfred A. Knopf on August 26.

Since he is an American, Mr. Hughes grew up thinking of himself as a Negro. But he went to Africa on a freighter when he was twenty-one, and the people there told him he was not a Negro at all, but white. He has some Cherokee blood, and some French, and some English-American, and it shows in his appearance. When he lived in Paris a short time later the people didn't care about those things; he was, and is, a delightful human being, and that was enough for them.

Mr. Hughes was born in 1902 in Joplin,, Missouri, but he spent his growing years principally in Kansas, in Illinois and in Cleveland. His parents were separated—his father had gone to Mexico and engaged in various business enterprises, while his mother remained in the States, worked for a living, and subsequently married a second time. He stayed as a boy with his grandmother in Lawrence, and went to school like other boys, and at twelve years old went to church and was "saved"—a proceeding he never understood at all, but he knew he had to get up and say he was saved or else keep the congregation in church permanently, so he got up and said it.

When he was graduated from grammar school in Lincoln, Illinois, he was elected class poet for no reason that he could discover, as he had never thought of writing before. But, being a poet, he had to write a poem. He wrote it, and read it at graduation, and everyone applauded. Thus he became a poet.

Then at high school in Cleveland, he really discovered his poetic gift, contributed many pieces to the school publication, and began to collect rejection slips from national magazines. And in the summer he went to Mexico to visit his father, a driving sort of man who was interested only in making money, and who had made it. It was not a pleasant summer; he was glad to go back to Cleveland, to school and to writing.

And right there is the pattern of the life Mr. Hughes was to follow in the years ahead—travel, and writing. He has traveled in Africa and Asia, as well as Europe and America. He has been a sailor, a waiter, a chef, a teacher, a college student, a farm hand, a watchman, an editor, and at least a minor lion in the literary renaissance of the '20's.

He has studied at Columbia and Lincoln University starved on the Genoa waterfront, mixed on intimate terms in the Negro society of Washington and the literary society of New York. He has met Jim Crow in the South and Mr. James Crow in the North, and no Crow at all in Mexico and Europe.

And he wrote. At first his pieces had no publisher: later they began to appear in "The Crisis," and he became known as a poet among his people. Then Vachel Lindsay saw some of his work, and liked it, and said so. It happened this way.

It was in 1925. Mr. Hughes was back from Europe, and was working as a bus boy at the Wardman Park Hotel in Washington. Mr. Lindsay came to the hotel on a lecture tour, and at dinner time Mr. Hughes quietly laid copies of a few of his poems beside the older writer's plate. That evening, at his lecture, Lindsay told his audience how he had read the work of that hotel bus-boy, that it was good, that they had a man of remarkable talent right there in Washington and hadn't discovered him.

That was a publicity break indeed. Reporters came to interview Mr. Hughes: his story and his picture were printed in newspapers everywhere. He won "Opportunity's" poetry prize, and began to meet important people in the world of literature—James Weldon Johnson and Zora Hurston, Witter Bynner and John Farrer, Alain Locke and Carl Van Vechten. It was Mr. Van Vechten who persuaded him to submit his first collection of poems to a book publisher, Alfred A. Knopf. The book was called "The Weary Blues," and Mr. Knopf published it early in 1926. It went through a number of editions and definitely established its author as one of America's important young poets before he was twenty-four years old. The doors of literary New York and smart Harlem were open to him: the golden twenties, with their excitement and variety and easy money, were beckoning.

Many a young man under those circumstances would have rested on his laurels, had fun for a few glamorous years, and then dropped out of sight.

Not Langston Hughes. He went back to college—to Lincoln University, with a scholarship, where he worked and studied and wrote where he instigated certain reforms in the make-up of the faculty., and where he took his bachelor's degree in 1929. During this period he contributed pieces to many magazines, and published two other books—"Fine Clothes to the Jew", a second collection of poems, and "Not Without Laughter," a novel. There were week-ends in Harlem, too, and summers spent here, there

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When he was graduated from grammar school in Lincoln, Illinois, he was elected class poet for no reason that he could discover, as he had never thought of writing before. But, being a poet, he had to write a poem. He wrote it, and read it at graduation, and everyone applauded. Thus he became a poet.

Then at high school in Cleveland, he really discovered his poetic gift, contributed many pieces to the school publication, and began to collect rejection slips from national magazines. And in the summer he went to Mexico to visit his father, a driving sort of man who was interested only in making money, and who had made it. It was not a pleasant summer; he was glad to go back to Cleveland, to school and to writing.

And right there is the pattern of the life Mr. Hughes was to follow in the years ahead—travel, and writing. He has traveled in Africa and Asia, as well as Europe and America. He has been a sailor, a waiter, a chef, a teacher, a college student, a farm hand, a watchman, an editor, and at least a minor lion in the literary renaissance of the '20's.

He has studied at Columbia and Lincoln University, starved on the Genoa waterfront, mixed on intimate terms in the Negro society of Washington and the literary society of New York. He has met Jim Crow in the South and Mr. James Crow in the North, and no Crow at all in Mexico and Europe.

And he wrote. At first his pieces had no publisher; later they began to appear in "The Crisis," and he became known as a poet among his people. Then Vachel Lindsay saw some of his work, and liked it, and said so. It happened this way.

It was in 1925. Mr. Hughes was back from Europe, and was working as a bus boy at the Wardman Park Hotel in Washington. Mr. Lindsay came to the hotel on a lecture tour, and at dinner time Mr. Hughes quietly laid copies of a few of his poems beside the older writer's plate. That evening, at his lecture, Lindsay told his audience how he had read the work of that hotel bus-boy, that it was good, that they had a man of remarkable talent right there in Washington and hadn't discovered him.

That was a publicity break indeed. Reporters came to interview Mr. Hughes; his story and his picture were printed in newspapers everywhere. He won "Opportunity's" poetry prize, and began to meet important people in the world of literature—James Weldon Johnson and Zora Hurston, Witter Bynner and John Farrer, Alain Locke and Carl Van Vechten. It was Mr. Van Vechten who persuaded him to submit his first collection of poems to a book publisher, Alfred A. Knopf. The book was called "The Weary Blues," and Mr. Knopf published it early in 1926. It went through a number of editions and definitely established its author as one of America's important young poets before he was twenty-four years old. The doors of literary New York and smart Harlem were open to him; the golden twenties, with their excitement and variety and easy money, were beckoning.

Many a young man under those circumstances would have rested on his laurels, had fun for a few glamorous years, and then dropped out of sight.

Not Langston Hughes. He went back to college—to Lincoln University, with a scholarship, where he worked and studied and wrote, where he instigated certain reforms in the make-up of the faculty, and where he took his bachelor's degree in 1929. During this period he contributed pieces to many magazines, and published two other books—"Fine Clothes to the Jew", a second collection of poems, and "Not Without Laughter," a novel. There were week-ends in Harlem, too, and summers spent here, there and everywhere. All the great names of the literary twenties stud these pages—Van Vechten and Bynner, Somerset Maugham, Fanny Hurst, Hugh Walpole, William Seabrook, Isa Glenn, Reuben Mamoulian, Horace Liveright, Miguel Covarrubias, and dozens of other leaders in art, music, every field of human activity. It was all wonderful, and Mr. Hughes writes of it with the zest he must have felt for that life while it lasted.

Then one day he awoke to realize that the Twenties were over, and his own twenties were practically over too. He had a gold medal, four hundred dollars in cash, no more scholarship, and no job. But he could write. And he did.

"Literature," he says, "is a big sea full of many fish. I let down my nets and pulled."

"The Big Sea" is the story of the man who did that pulling, and it shows not only what manner of man he is but why he has been pulling successfully ever since.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Terrell Autobiography Saga of Discrimination

NOV 2 1940

Had Two Obstacles—Being a Woman and Being Colored, Says Writer

By LULA JONES GARRETT

Mrs. Mary Church Terrell has written the history of her life. And it is a saga of discrimination covering a life span from early childhood in the far South, to accomplished womanhood in the capitals of the world.

Probably it does well to state here that the autobiography has a preface by H. G. Wells, who admits that in writing the preface, he breaks an obstinately held-to rule not to write prefaces, but that he is very proud to contribute his "silver mug" to this "literary godchild."

Would Add Matter

It may be well, too, to add that in this review Mr. Wells says that he wouldn't attempt an excursion into criticism of the volume. He would not blue-pencil it, nor rearrange it. Rather, says he, would he put in one or two things that he knows almost certainly have been left out.

And that, I think, will precisely express the feeling that most readers will experience upon completion of the book.

Writing under the caption, "A Colored Woman in a White World," would, of course, give leaway to little other than a story of prejudice. And so the writer introduced herself by saying that she belongs to a group in this country which has two huge obstacles to surmount: being colored and being a woman.

And she ends her tale leaving the reader feeling that while she may submit to being a woman, in spite of even glorious accomplishments, she still remains frustrated at being a woman that must remain colored in a world that will remain white.

Father Near White

Mrs. Terrell explains in the very first pages of her book that her father was of such fairness that no one would have surmised that he had a drop of African blood in his veins, and adds that as a matter of fact he had very little.

Later she reprints a letter to show that her great-grandmother was not of African descent, but was a Malay princess from the Island of San Domingo.

She traces carefully her father's relation to one white Captain C. B. Church. So that one gets a very good picture of the appearances of the Churches, and feels in getting this picture, that had her antecedents had just a few drops more of either black or white blood, this autobiography would have been a history of accomplishment instead of a song of frustration.

Mother Was Free Soul

While it is of her father that Mrs. Terrell writes with all the admiration in the world, her description of her mother warms the cockles of one's heart. For Lou Church, as described by her daughter, must have been a precious character. Certainly she was a free soul, with a mind of her own, a disposition that spread sunshine and cheer to all about her, and a generosity that sometimes reached a fault.

Mrs. Church it was who went into business, opening a hair store, when ladies stayed home; divorced her husband when divorces were eternal disgraces; refused to send her daughter to a small Southern school, and packed her to New England at an early age, and even won a sweepstake, when wagering must have been something to fling one's hands up at in holy horror.

But she went right on making money, winning money, spending money and refusing to let anything or anyone spoil her life for her.

Was Presented to Prince, but Snubbed by Snooty D.C. Club Women

Father Courageous

If it was to her father that Mary Church Terrell owes the courage that made her a renowned fighter for suffrage, and the urge to reach the top, that brought her the friendship of Dr. Booker T. Washington, the recognition of Prince Henry of Prussia, and that has identified her with forward movements during her life and still keeps her in the ranks of the leaders, it was the adventuresomeness from her mother that gave that verve to make her defy her father and go to work and mischievousness that makes her mentally giggle over "passing" in places where others of her race are barred.

Tells of Busy Life

One must read the book to relive with her her years at Wilberforce University as a teacher, her years of study in Germany, her travels in Europe, her friendships in America and abroad, her experiences in employment in a government department, her marriage and life with Judge Terrell, her political activities and life with her children.

And if one feels that at times the writer over-emphasizes the importance of being accepted by whites, and at other times that she is a bit too grateful to those of the other race who do accept her, when it is they who should be appreciative of being accepted by her, one must remember that she IS writing of a "colored woman in a white world."

Misses Real Picture

But like H. G. Wells, I should have liked to have had Mrs. Terrell put in some of the things that most certainly have been left out. Of course, her autobiography does fulfill the purpose of biographies in that it gives a picture of the contemporary life during the span of the subject.

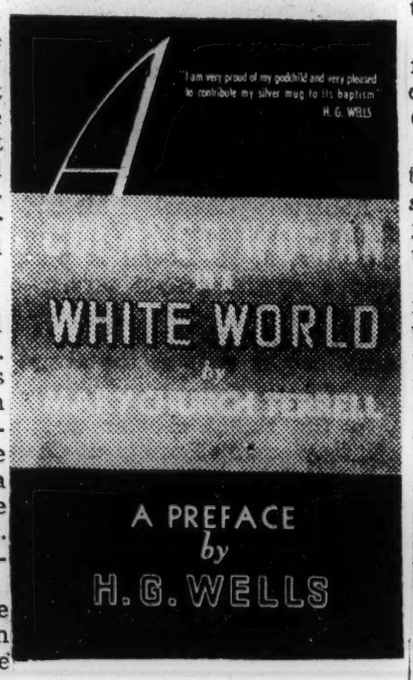
It was a matter. here, of selecting pictures.

There is the picture of the practice of prejudices by such insignificant persons as white Southern school children, ignorant train conductors and snooty white club women and the art of "passing" by those of colored blood and white skins.

There could have been the picture of gifted, cultured womanhood and the steadily growing glow of improvement down the years through which she has walked.

I do wish Mrs. Terrell's autobiography had been written under the same caption with the words "colored" and "white" eliminated.

MRS. MARY C. TERRELL



Hampton Book October Choice Of Book Club

'Negro In Virginia' Also Ordered By Chile And Argentina

HAMPTON, Va. — Selection of the Hampton Institute sponsored "The Negro in Virginia" as a Book of the Month Club recommendation for October marked a new milestone for Negro writers everywhere, it was observed this week by Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, Hampton president.

The first WPA book to be so honored, and the second time in recent years that a book about the Negro has been selected by The Book of the Month Club, "The Negro in Virginia" is molding public opinion all over the world.

Hampton Institute has filled orders for the book from all sections of the country, as well as from Argentina and Chile.

OCT 31 1940

In the announcement of the selection The Book of the Month Club asserts that: "The Federal Writers' Project has done itself proud in its volume on "The Negro in Virginia" ($2.50). A study of the colored race in Virginia from the arrival of some twenty Negroes in 1619 to the present day, it combines in happy fashion formal history and a human-interest story. It is an important book which casts much light on its subject."

Dr. MacLean expressed himself as "delighted" that important critics all over Amer.ca have praised both Hampton Institute and the Virginia Writers' Project for their cooperation in producing such a valuable work. in its September-October issue.

The Negro Digest included two selections from "The Negro in Virginia"

FAMILY MOVES 'NAWTH' 'AS GAL WRITES A BOOK

NOV 6 1940

North Carolina Author Sells Everything.

NEW YORK—A major revolution has taken place in the life of the McCullers family, late of Fayetteville, N. C. The McCullers family, Reeves and Carson, his iwef, were living calmly in Carolina; now they have sold out lock, stock and barrel, and are living on the fifth floor back of an Eleventh street house downtown.

Carson McCullers' first novel, "The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter," hit the reviewers with a bang, which accounts for everything.

Everything, that is, except Mrs. McCullers, who seems to be a puzzle to the literary set. For one thing, her novel has the maturity of style and thought to be expected from a woman in middle age, yet she was only 22 when it was published in the middle of June. She's had a birthday since. Chicago

A Round Faced Girl.

For another, she is a round faced girl with a long, light bob, and looks almost like a child. But she has the tenacity of a Joe Louis, and can hit almost as hard when she wants to.

And she is frank. She came to New York, and so did Reeves McCullers, because she does not like living in a small town—and says so. She likes a farm, and she likes a big city. In between she can't bear it. Times

"Reeves and I could make a go of a farm," she insists, "but it would take an outside income unless you wanted to work yourself to death." Later, she thinks, the McCullerses might move to the country and try it. At present, New York is too much fun. Chicago?

Plans Her Next Novel.

Her positive impulses govern her work, too. Her next novel will be, she thinks, about a Jew, probably a refugee. But she can't work with world conditions as they are, and has no intention of trying. The fact that there have been dozens of novels about Jews lately does not concern her at all. Ill

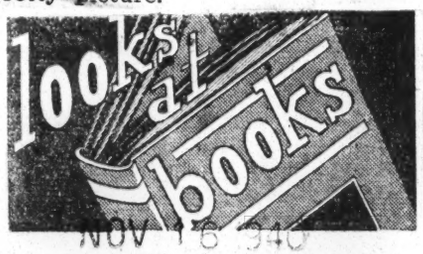
As a matter of fact, "The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter" was conceived as an allegory of Fascism, altho most reviewers have missed the point. It concerns the influence on the lives of five people of a deaf mute named Singer who is to each of them, for different reasons, the symbol of godliness. He says nothing, yet comes to represent everything to his small group. Everybody tends, Mrs. McCullers thinks, to search for a leader to carry their burdens, which is one root of Fascism.

One 'Friend' Expensive.

Now she is reveling in the contacts that sudden fame brings. She like talking with writers over a glass of sherry, and she talks well, altho she admits that she feels more at home when writing. The only untoward incident since she became a "name" skipped her, but struck her husband.

One of the new friends apparently walked out of the McCullers apartment with his wallet—it held the proceeds of the sale of the family car, too.

Otherwise it's all fun. Even dashing from auction room to auction room for furniture is fun. In fact, our new novelist is much like a charming, self-contained little girl at her first big party, and it makes a pretty picture.



NOV 16 1940

NEGRO MASONRY

In this 132 pages of Masonic research entitled, "Negro Masonry In the United States" (Henry Emerson, N. Y., $2.50) Harold Van Buren Voorhis has contributed something to fraternal lore, adding something to the knowledge of when, and how, Negroes became Masons. The author has, somehow, failed to take full advantage of his opportunities to invest this thesis with the appealing human interest with which the subject is abundantly charged.

He makes the commonplace error of, to some degree, minimizing the importance of some of the earlier books covering the same field. This occurs in the preface, while in later pages he makes use of some of the same material which gave the stamp of authenticity to the work of William H. Grimshaw, Negro, and William H. Upton, white, both past grand masters and both of whom lived closer to the days of origin than does Mr. Voorhis.

These two books, the author admits, are more often found in Masonic libraries than are others. He explains that the Grimshaw work "is a sort of historical treatise, but the data is frequently untrustworthy," and says of the Upton book that it is a "Defense of Negro Masonry," which is, after all, merely an academic distinction, since Mr. Voorhis, and all others writing in the field he has chosen to study, must, of necessity, include that element, else there would be little motive for the book at all.

In the phase of current history, or more recent developments and incidents, the author has been somewhat negligent. It is difficult to conceive how anyone interested in the subject could have overlooked the Memorial to William H. Upton held in the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore October 6-7, 1935, sponsored by the "Prince Hall" United Grand Lodge of Maryland, and participated in by the governor, mayor and other important white Masons of the State. More than 5,000 people responded to Grand Master Willard W. Allen's call to this assembly.

INCOMPLETE WORK

Another example of incomplete work may be found in his reference to Scottish Rite Masonry of Louisiana, of which he says, "This body, probably, is not in fraternal amity with the other two Supreme Councils of the United States." There was little reason for the writer to remain in doubt, or thus summarily dismiss the subject with an indefinite conclusion, when an inquiry to the heads of the councils concerned would have enabled him to make a definite statement, and quote authorities for so doing. He very obviously knew, or could ascertain, the address of all concerned.

He is only partly correct in assigning economic causes as the reason for the recent loss of membership in the Eureka Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star of the State of New York, since other contributing reasons of more damaging character to membership are a matter of common knowledge and court record. Perhaps this may be attributed to chivalry and courtesy; but it is not good historic reporting.

One also wonders why the book contains no tabulation of Masonic membership as of the present, or when the manuscript was completed. A letter to the 37 Grand Lodge offices of which he writes would have elicited this information.

Finally, since the author did give some consideration to concordant branches of Masonry, however slight, to have practically ignored the A.E.A Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine; and its battle from the courts of Georgia, Oklahoma and Texas to and through the Supreme Court of the United States, which established a precedent for the protection of Masonry and all other fraternal organizations among Negroes, is, to say the least, a grievous oversight.

In spite of the foregoing, the book deserves a place among fraternal publications. Quite informative, it assembles in a brief form some knowledge which should be in the hands of every Mason, regardless of race or color. Well-indexed and with two pages of bibliography included, it has value as a reference work.

I hope the author will be encouraged to remain at work and do a more comprehensive job.

—James A. Jackson, 33°

Negro Named Stimson Aid

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25 (AP).—The War Department announced tonight that President Roosevelt had appointed Judge William H. Hastie, dean of Howard University Law School, as civilian aid to the Secretary of War "to be concerned with the development and administration of policies looking to the fair and effective utilization of Negroes in all branches of the military service."

OCT 26 1940

New York Herald Tribune

Howard University is a Negro institution here.

The announcement stated that Judge Hastie, in accepting the appointment, explainted that "he has consistently expressed his opposition to any policy of discrimination or segregation in the armed forces and that it is his belief that in this position he will be able to work effectively toward the integration of the Negro into the Army and to facilitate his placement, training and promotion."

New York D.G.

Selective service headquarters announced tonight the appointment of Maj. Campbell Johnson as executive assistant to director Clarence A. Dykstra. Maj. Johnson, a Negro, formerly was professor of sociology at Howard University.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

Clemson S. C. Negro
April 12, 1940

Lane's Article On Negro Writers Carried By Current Issue Of State Education Magazine

By EARL MAZO

Prof. John D. Lane, of the Clemson English department, tells of the "New Negro," and his place in literature, in an article entitled "Negro Writers in College Textbooks," published in the current issue of "South Carolina Education."

Pointing, at first, to the establishment and growth of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Prof. Lane traces development in the literature produced by Negroes from the early 1900's to the 1920's when works of Negro authors began to appear in national American magazines, and the 1930's when those works began to appear in college text-books.

The Clemson professor, in his article, says that the "New Negro" is not interested in imitating the whites, but wants to develop a literature of his own. Quoting Langston Hughes, a Negro poet, on this subject, he says: " . . We young Negro artists intend to express our individual dark-skinned selves without fear or shame."

Two popular contentions for the rise of the Negro's literature. Prof. Lane said, are "miscegenation and fad." Many of the Negro writers have more white blood than colored, he said; and explaining the fad, "the Negro in literature is still an oddity," and oftentimes, "his work is greeted from the standpoint of race and not art." These contentions, he said, are purely speculative.

Discussing the attitude taken by some of the poets, Prof. Lane showed where the trend was to race-consciousness. "It is my personal opinion that race consciousness is the first barrier the would-be Negro poet will have to remove before he can ever be an artist. No real art ever came from self-consciousness."

Among facts brought out in the education magazine article is: There are upwards to 50 Negro writers of verse at present who claim that they have published over a 100 volumes. The Negroes who have works published in college anthologies of modern poetry include Claude McKay, Countee Cullen, Langston Hughes, and James Weldon Johnson.

Penna. Colored WPA Writers' Work Praised

Have Completed 35 Books In 5 Years; Ex-Newsman Edits Guide

The drowning of personalities, with the production of good work, was evident last week (May 20-25) when the the Pennsylvania Works Progress Administration exhibited at the Art Project, 519 south Broad street; and the Writers' Project, 12th and Brandywine streets.

However, fortunately, there was less anonymity at the art exhibit than at the writers' exhibit. Consequently, in more than one instance the name of the artist appeared in one of the corners at the bottom of the painting, or lithograph, or wood cut, or poster.

While it is possible to see the writers—and there are eight Negroes—at work, that was not true of the artists. They do their work at home, bring it to the exhibition, and leave.

Artists Sell Products

They need no by-lines (as if the writers do) because their work, as good as it must be, is not done for future fame. They work to eat, and that is a necessity of the present.

Consequently, what they produce is allocated (sold at a fraction of cost) to government-supported institutions, such as schools and public buildings. Private individuals and concerns, if they desire the work of any particular artist, must commission him at regular (and much higher) rates.

Books on Sales

The writers produce mainly for public consumption. What they produce (books, maps, pamphlets, and short pieces) go on sale at most book stores or are obtainable at the project locale.

At the exhibition (in the Ogden school building, 12th and Brandywine streets), it was possible to see every step in the making of a book, etc., from the rough field notes up to, but not including the actual printing. This is done by private companies, who operate (in this instance) on a non-profit basis.

During the last five years, the project has completed 35 pieces of work, some of which are now being used by the Board of Education.

One of the most successful works, from both the literary and the financial point of view, is the book entitled, "Philadelphia, a Guide to the Nation's Birthplace," of which the first edition, compiled in 1937, is sold out.

Now, with an outlay of nearly $30,000 by the Pennsylvania State Department of Instruction, a second edition of "Philadelphia, a Guide to the Nation's Birthplace" is being prepared, with revisions under the editorship of Kenton Jackson.

Colored Editor

Jackson, a Negro and former newspaperman, said that the deadline for all material for the book is June 15.

In addition to numerous illustrations, the guide will contain a map (made by cartographers at the project) of "Highway By-Passes" and a "Transportation Map of Philadelphia and Vicinity." Both diagrams will be detachable.

Chapter Covers 25 Years

A possible by-line (something seldom on a WPA writers' project) will go to Aaron Harrison, another Negro, who is compiling material for a book on all music, not limited to the Negro.

Harrison, who holds degrees from Temple and Howard universities and is a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania, said each chapter will cover approximately 25 years. Nine chapters have been completed, with more to come.

In his comment on Nevin's "The Rosary" he has gone to some length, and uses a paragraph each for the phrases: "The hours I spent with thee, dear heart . . ." and " . . . are as a string of pearls to me."

Also in prepartion is a book on "The Negro in the Life of Philadelphia," of which Mrs. Helen Lee Pinkett is editor. Research workers and reporters for the book, which is to include 600 pages, are:

Alonzo Millberry, John Roane, Lillian McCall, Thomas Lee, Kenton Jackson, and Theodore Stanford (also working on a book of the Philadelphia Zoological Gardens) — all Negroes.

Millberry is collaborating on a book of Philadelphia Italians. Other Negroes on the project are Lawson Bates, Ruth Smallwood, Eugene Wall, and Edie Mae Daniels.

700 Women Sewing

Visitors to the Sewing Project at 6th and Noble streets—an all-colored project, from supervisor down—saw hundreds of women making garments of every conceivable kind.

The most modern machinery used in up-todate factories was being used, including power machines such as most of the labor unions bar colored women from operating in private factories.

Seven hundred women are employed here—in two shifts of 350 each.

Approximately 75 exhibits featuring work done in WPA classes in the four districts were on display!

Slowe Cadets Surprised

One of the week's discoveries was made by the cadets of the Wm. M. Slowe Post, VFW, when the Safety Patrol of the Martha Washington School, 44th and Aspen streets, presented a new drill formation around the American flag on Tuesday night.

'CHILDREN OF BONDAGE' BY DAVIS, OUT

8-3-40

NEW ORLEANS, La., Aug. 1—The publication of "Children of Bondage: The Personality Development of Negro Youth in the Urban South," of which Allison Davis, professor of Social Anthropology at Dillard university, is co-author, was announced last week by the American Council of Education. This book is one of several which will be issued as a result of a two-and-a-half-year survey of the problems of Negro youth, sponsored by the American Council on Education, and is based on interviews with over 200 Negro adolescents in Natchez and New Orleans. Mr. Davis, in collaboration with John Dollard, the other author of the book, spent more than a year collecting data and Mr. Davis was on leave of absence from Dillard during the year 1939-1940 in order to prepare for publication the results of this study.

Though the background material was supplied by the interviews with 200 or more adolescents, the book is written around eight individual case histories in such a manner as to make it a stirring human document as well as a study of scientific and social importance.

Mr. Davis, who is resident at the University of Chicago during his leave of absence, was recently appointed a staff member of the Division on Child Development and Teacher Personnel, Commission on Teacher Education, at the University of Chicago for the duration of his leave.

SMUTS

HORTHY

GOERING

HITLER

MANNERHEIM

WILHELMINA

ROOSEVELT

GEORGE

MUSSOLINI

SELASSIE

GOEBBELS

VOROSHILOV

Meet These Leaders In A World Gone Mad—She Knew Them

THESE MEN I KNEW, by Rosita Forbes. E. P. Dutton and Company, Inc., New York. 302 pages —$3.

Today the world of yesterday is dying. The ideas and ideals for which men died a generation ago are being upset or defended at terrible cost. And those who are the vanguard of history's greatest turning point are the subjects of this series of reminiscences by Rosita Forbes.

The author is an Englishwoman who has spent years exploring infrequented spots, traveling unmarked trails, finding adventure often where no other white woman and few white men had been, or meeting and talking with those apostles of change who were rooting the world out of a rut—or trying to.

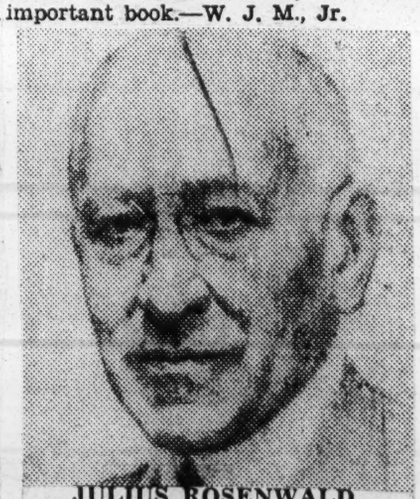
Adolf Hitler and Hermann Goering, Stalin and Marshal Voroshilov, the late King Alexander and the late King Feisal, Mussolini, Goebbels, Admiral Horthy, Roosevelt, Wilhelmina, Gen. Smuts, Haile Selassie, Sir Basil Zahoroff, Henry Ford, Marshal Mannerheim, Mahatma Gandhi, King Boris, King George, King Zog, and a variety of others.

Hitler quite honestly cannot believe in anything greater or more important than Germany . . . To my mind Goering is a cheerful savage . . . a very hard worker, a good organizer, a brave man with an immense zest for living, but he has neither genius nor wide understanding . . . Dr. Goebbels remains a thin, dark flame burning itself out in a laboratory. He is an artificial product.

Promises would merely be a form of excuse. For me, Stalin is far more an Asian than the Shah of Persia. If he said one thing, I would expect him to do exactly the reverse . . . Voroshilov is essentially the good comrade who loves noise and the harsh, seamed faces of soldiers round a table loaded with food, good laughs, heaps of tobacco, Vodka, and a good time . . . He (Kemal Ataturk) was harsh, domineering, and violent, but they (his people) knew exactly what he was doing. Unlike the other dictators, he took the whole country into his confidence. He never bluffed.

Leopold is "one of the dozen or so really fearless people I have met . . . He makes up his mind quickly and acts." "Roosevelt is essentially a politician. He is, therefore, supremely adaptable." As for Musolini, "No man, not even Hitler, has done more to re-create a nation, and the Duce was hampered by the quality of his material. The Germans are a fighting race who like being organized and disciplined. The Italians are the exact reverse."

Here is a revealing book, written after the start of war but early enough in it so that the author was still a reporter rather than a propagandist. She writes with candor and obviously from copious notes, quoting character-baring conversations. It is probably the finest thing Rosita Forbes has done, and unquestionably her most important book.—W. J. M., Jr.



JULIUS ROSENWALD, distinguished American merchant and philanthropist, whose biography has been written by M. R. Werner under the title of 'Julius Rosenwald: The Life of a Practical Humanitarian.'

New Book News

By JOHN E. DREWRY,

Dean, Henry W. Grady School of Journalism, University of Georgia.

In the preface to his "Julius Rosenwald: The Life of a Practical Humanitarian" (Harper's) M. R. Werner, the author, quotes this statement by George Sand:

"Men are only interested in a man when that man is interested inhumanity."

This, in brief, is a key both to the career of Rosenwald and to the biography which Mr. Werner has written.

Rosenwald was interested in humanity and demonstrated his interest in a very tangible way. As a high executive of Sears, Roebuck & Company, he prospered greatly. "He made much more money than he or his relatives could use, and he gave much of it back to society," writes his biographer. "He had a passion for personality, and he banked heavily on men and women whom he considered good; and he was always ready to supply large sums of money impulsively when ideas were presented to him. And what appealed to him was the cause which seems to have the seeds, at least, of a fundamental social reform."

* * *

During his life, Rosenwald gave away, according to Mr. Werner, approximately $63,000,000. This is, of course, a tremendous sum of money, and, viewed from the standpoint of either acquisition or disposition, it is a theme of much potential interest. And these two angles of the man's life—how he made his money and how he gave much of it away—are the subjects which give special significance to this biography. Both are handled adequately and in a most engaging manner.

Education, the Negro and his problems, ~~Jewish~~ resettlement projects, and public health are some of the subjects which engaged Rosenwald's philanthropic interests. Mr. Werner writes in detail about all these, especially the Negro benefactions. And this is an aspect of Rosenwald's life which affects Georgia and the south in particular. The new vice chancellor of the University System of Georgia, it will be recalled, came to his new position as director of this phase of the work of the Rosenwald Foundation.

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Many of the husband's benefactions may be traced to Mrs. Rosenwald and the family dinner table. "He brought home guests who interested him because of their personalities or the importance of the work in which they were engaged, and Mrs. Rosenwald had a knack for drawing them out and getting them to discuss the problems and ideas with which they were wrestling," Mr. Werner reports. "These men and women represented every walk in life and every class in society. Bankers and writers, singers and social workers, rabbis and actresses all came to the Rosenwald dinner table at one time or another, and in his later years scarcely a distinguished person who passed through Chicago was not present at his home."

As for the knid of person Rosenwald was—his personality, so to speak—Mr. Werner says that "the impression one carries away from the accounts of him by his family and friends is of a healthy, energetic man who was possessed by an immense social curiosity and a hearty urge to remedy social evils by any power within his material and spiritual means."

He was, he continues, "a man who was so impatient of anything that he disapproved of that he had the impulse to remedy it, and in small matters he could get into purple rages with business associates and intimates who crossed his wishes. He was, however, always ready to listen to constructive ideas and to implement them by means of his personal attention and his wealth if he found them of so-

SMUTS

HORTHY

GOERING

HITLER

MANNERHEIM

WILHELMINA

ROOSEVELT

GEORGE

MUSSOLINI

SELASSIE

GOEBBELS

VOROSHILOV

Meet These Leaders In A World Gone Mad—She Knew Them

THESE MEN I KNEW, by Rosita Forbes. E. P. Dutton and Company, Inc., New York, 303 pages —$3.

Today the world of yesterday is dying. The ideas and ideals for which men died a generation ago are being upset or defended at terrible cost. And those in the vanguard of history's greatest turning point are the subjects of this series of reminiscences by Rosita Forbes.

The author is an Englishwoman who has spent years exploring infrequented spots, traveling unmarked trails, finding adventure often where no other white woman and few white men had been, or meeting and talking with those apostles of change who were rooting the world out of a rut—or trying to.

Adolf Hitler and Hermann Goering, Stalin and Marshal Voroshilov, the late King Alexander and the late King Feisal, Mussolini, Goebbels, Admiral Horthy, Roosevelt, Wilhelmina, Gen. Smuts, Haile Selassie, Sir Basil Zahoroff, Henry Ford, Marshal Mannerheim, Mahatma Gandhi, King Boris, King George, King Zog, and a variety of others.

Hitler quite honestly cannot believe in anything greater or more important than Germany . . . To my mind Goering is a cheerful savage . . . a very hard worker, a good organizer, a brave man with an immense zest for living, but he has neither genius nor wide understanding . . . Dr. Goebbels remains a thin, dark flame burning itself out in a laboratory. He is an artificial product.

Promises would merely be a form of excuse. For me, Stalin is far more an Asian than the Shah of Persia. If he said one thing, I would expect him to do exactly the reverse . . . Voroshilov is essentially the good comrade who loves noise and the harsh, seamed faces of soldiers round a table loaded with food, good laughs, heaps of tobacco, Vodka, and a good time . . . He (Kemal Ataturk) was harsh, domineering, and violent, but they (his people) knew exactly what he was doing. Unlike the other dictators, he took the whole country into his confidence. He never bluffed.

Leopold is "one of the dozen or so really fearless people I have met . . . He makes up his mind quickly and acts." "Roosevelt is essentially a politician. He is, therefore, supremely adaptable." As for Musolini, "No man, not even Hitler, has done more to re-create a nation, and the Duce was hampered by the quality of his material. The Germans are a fighting race who like being organized and disciplined. The Italians are the exact reverse."

Here is a revealing book, written after the start of war but early enough in it so that the author was still a reporter rather than a propagandist. She writes with candor and obviously from copious notes, quoting character-baring conversations. It is probably the finest thing Rosita Forbes has done, and unquestionably her most important book.—W. J. M., Jr.

JULIUS ROSENWALD,

distinguished American merchant and philanthropist, whose biography has been written by M. R. Werner under the title of 'Julius Rosenwald: The Life of a Practical Humanitarian."

New Book News

By JOHN E. DREWRY,

Dean, Henry W. Grady School of Journalism, University of Georgia.

In the preface to his "Julius Rosenwald: The Life of a Practical Humanitarian" (Harper's) M. R. Werner, the author, quotes this statement by George Sand:

"Men are only interested in a man when that man is interested inhumanity."

This, in brief, is a key both to the career of Rosenwald and to the biography which Mr. Werner has written.

Rosenwald was interested in humanity and demonstrated his interest in a very tangible way. As a high executive of Sears, Roebuck & Company, he prospered greatly. "He made much more money than he or his relatives could use, and he gave much of it back to society," writes his biographer. "He had a passion for personality, and he banked heavily on men and women whom he considered good; and he was always ready to supply large sums of money impulsively when ideas were presented to him. And what appealed to him was the cause which seems to have the seeds, at least, of a fundamental social reform."

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DR. CARTER WOODSON SENDS OUT RELEASE

NOV 15 1940

Dr. Robert T. Kerlin Makes An Interesting Confession On History.

Washington, D. C. (Special)—In publishing through the Associated Publishers, Inc., 1538 Ninth Street Northwest, Washington, D. C., the third edition of this anthology of Negro verse, entitled **Negro Poets and Their Poems**, Dr. Robert T. Kerlin makes an interesting confession. Let him speak for himself:

"The creative impulse manifested in Negro verse during the 'twenties largely expended itself in that decade. In these later years there has been a decline both in quantity and quality of Negro verse publication. General hard times may in part account for this, but not wholly. I think the incipient or potential poets failed to enlarge their field, to attempt new themes, and boldly to work upon matter and forms provided by their own racial heritage.

"That this decline in the Negro's artistic achievement is confined to verse is cause for reflection. Why is it that in prose fiction, in the art of acting, in singing, and in other arts, there has been great advance during this decade, while there has been nothing comparable in poetry?

"Some of the more noteworthy writers of verse have become silent, either in death or in discouragement. Their equals have not risen in a younger generation to take their places. What answer to this indubitable fact has the impressive stream of college graduates to give? Poetry, I must needs think, is the noblest of the arts, man's consummate expression. And the Negro's conquest of prejudice will be rather by poetry than by savage editorials.

"The old songs are still potent. Shall there not be new songs with loftier, stronger notes?

"I am not insisting upon the lyric cry, nor upon the clamant protest. A greater power lies in sheer art, purely human poetry that invades the heart and steals away its prejudice ere it is aware.

"A Southerner, reared in the common Southern tradition in white supremacy, I seemed to discern just after the First World War that the American Negro had experienced a new birth, that he was determined no longer to endure with wonted patience the grosser discriminations and deeper injustices to which he had been subjected, that in his press he was giving more vigorous expression to his grievances and demands, and that he was in the way of finding artistic expression for his life. Convinced of the essential justice in his demands and of the legitimacy of his aspirations, and perceiving an unrecognized merit in his art, I conceived the purpose of assisting in a movement that would make for the honor and benefit of all America, white and colored.

"The result was my choice of the Negro in a compilation from Negro newspapers, and this verse anthology. I trust that these books have been factors in the remarkable achievements and advance of the colored people of America during the last two decades. I trust they will continue to inspire pride of race, ambition for achievement, and artistic expression. This for the Negro. For his white neighbor, I trust that the specimens of verse found in this volume will beget in him a new understanding, a deeper respect, and a more genuine admiration for his fellow American of color; admiration, I say, for this poetry implies heroism, if reflected upon, and character."

This book of poems was first published in 1923. Several reprintings followed. The second edition was brought out in 1935 in revised and enlarged form. Since that time the demand for the volume has steadily increased. It was necessary, then, to produce this third edition in 1940 to supply this demand. This edition, too, has been revised and enlarged to keep the volume abreast with the times as a presentation and an interpretation of the best recent thoughts of the Negro expressed in verse. In this effort the author has rendered the public a valuable service.

Dr. Kerlin will be remembered, too, because of his championing the cause of the oppressed. When a member of the faculty of the Virginian Military Institute at Lexington he was dismissed for writing an open letter to the Governor of Arkansas, denouncing the injustice of the courts that condemned to death those Negro sharecroppers who struck back when fired upon while taking counsel as to how to secure the proper returns from their labor. Dr. Kerlin later lost another position at the West Chester Pennsylvania Normal School for taking a similar stand in behalf of the oppressed. He believes that ye shall know the truth and the truth will make you free.

C. G. WOODSON.

Savannah, Ga., Press
November 2, 1940

NATIVE QUALITY OF NEGRO LIFE SHOWN

"DRUMS AND SHADOWS" COMES OUT OF RICH FOLKLORE OF SECTION

Out of the rich folklore of Savannah and the surrounding tidewater regions will come early in December a new book full of the native quality of negro life in this section, "Drums and Shadows."

Written in Gullah dialect with phonetic spelling so as to be easily read, "Drums and Shadows" is an authentic record of the superstitions, beliefs and survival customs handed down generation to generation from African ancestry.

Only native Savannahians could have written this book—only those who have lived among the Geechee negroes from childhood and who have heard their thick, salty brogue firsthand could have so accurately set it down on paper.

The authors of the book are the writers and editors of the Savannah Unit of the Georgia Writers' Project. It will be illustrated by dramatic photographs by Malcolm and Muriel Bell of Savannah and will be published by the University of Georgia Press in Athens.

Commenting on the manuscript of the book, Melville J. Herkovits, Northwestern University anthropologist, says, "It is interestingly written and should be read by all those who are concerned with rounding out a full picture of life in the South today."

The photographs, taken of the subjects discussed in the book, characterize the photographers as masters of the portrait photograph. Sympathetic understanding of the coastal negro is also revealed in the artistic illustrations.

Many of the picturesque sections of Savannah may soon be gone. Yamacraw has been overtaken by the march of progress and the old order is yielding on every hand. In a few more years the hucksters and the fishermen, with their ghosts and "sperrits," mal become only memories.

But books like "Drums and Shadows" will live on to tell the story of a vanishing culture on the American scene. The provincial charm and quaintness of the coastal regions will be kept alive by such writing as is done in this study.

The series of interviews that make up the book were gathered from Pin Point, the Old Fort, Tin City, Darien, Yamacraw, Currytown, Frogtown, White Bluff, Wilmington, Harris Neck, Possum Point, Sunbury, Sapelo, St. Simon, St. Marys, Grimball's Point and Brownville.

Jane Hunter's Autobiography Is Outstanding

DEC 5 1940

Declaring Jane Hunter's autobiography, "A Nickel and a Prayer", to be an extraordinary life story, comparable to Booker T. Washington's "Up from Slavery", John Bennett, noted journalist and author, gives fullsome praise to this book in a review published in the past week's Sunday edition of the Charleston News and Courier, leading daily of South Carolina.

This book, says Mr. Bennett in his review, is one of the most remarkable books produced by an American Negro. It tells of a South Carolinian Negro girl, who pledged her life to wiping out some of the hazards which meet a young colored woman seeking a decent employment and an honest living in a strange city.

"This woman," says Mr. Bennett, "battling upward against prejudice, discrimination, skepticism, distrust, and the malignant treachery of corrupt politics, founded a home for the friendless Negro girl, who came to the large cities of the North during the migration years between 1910 and 1920. The Phillis Wheatley Association of Cleveland, the institution she founded may be regarded as a notable example of the most successful interracial cooperations in the field of social service. It is indeed revealed as the refuge for the working girl."

DEC 5 1940

The First Reader

Native Son Described by Author—Lella Warren Writes of Creek Country—New Vercel Book Out

By HARRY HANSEN.

SEP 19 1940

Richard Wright Describes Native Son—I have attended a great many literary meetings at which authors talked about their books, but I have never heard such an eloquent, as well as precise, analysis of a book by its author as Richard Wright delivered Saturday evening before a vast audience in the Golden Gate Ballroom, W. 142nd St. and Lenox Ave. Speaking steadily for more than an hour and a half, Wright described his early life, his meeting with various frustrated and inarticulate Negroes who helped him form the character of Bigger Thomas and his complete grasp on his material, his intentions and his method before he began to write **Native Son.**

He showed himself not only completely aware of what he was trying to do and the results he had achieved, but an earnest, thoughtful student of the imprisoned cravings of his own people, caused by their subordinate position in American life. His appreciation of psychological and social forces in white Americans was no less keen and shrewd. The only misgiving that occurred to me, as I heard his faultless delivery in fine English prose, was how a Negro who had been subjected to the disabilities in Mississippi and Chicago that he described had reached the high intellectual attainments that he exhibited.

The evening inaugurated the Negro Playwrights Theatre, which will replace clowning with dignified acting by colored actors. The immense ballroom was jammed; there may have been 1500 or 2000 there, and the air was blue with smoke and the lighting dreadful. Many came to hear Paul Robeson sing, but I was glad that they had to hear Richard Wright first. Wright's talk was so long that those not inured to double features began to fidget and fuss, and I regret to say that it was chiefly the whites who couldn't sit still. I congratulate Theodore Ward, president of the new company, on his enthusiasm and vision, and, as his theater is in no danger of becoming a fad, I expect it to make a wholesome contribution to American culture.

* * *

New Novel Out Today.

SEP 9 1940

Foundation Stone, by Lella Warren. When a man writes a novel about pioneer plantation life in the Creek country of Alabama or Mississippi as James Street did, he is likely to emphasize the brutal, fighting spirit of the period and portray hard-hitting, ruthless males. What a woman does with the same material is on display in this gentler novel by Miss Warren, which deals with family life on a plantation in Alabama from 1823 to 1865, and subordinates the activities of the men to the social engagements, courtship, marriage and child bearing, relations with Negro servants and household routine of the women. The result is a 754-page novel that has less to say about fighting than about marriage, and is more likely to remind the reader of the early Hergesheimer than Margaret Mitchell.

Chief of the woman characters is Gerda van Ifort, of Dutch descent, who inherits part of the plantation legacy of William Whetstone in South Carolina, marries Yarborough and moves with him into the Creek country of Alabama to develop better land for cotton. Here she helps manage the place, bears him children, forgives his infidelities and remains loyal to him until his death by consumption. Although agressive and sometimes called a spitfire, she is not another Scarlett O'Hara, and in parts of the book she is eclipsed by her daughter Lucinda. The latter is ambitious and emotionally unstable; she marries a crude overseer, Malone, whom she dismisses after catching him in the arms of a slave.

The historical events of the period are touched on lightly, and, although the Creek war, the removal of the Creeks and the civil war enter the chronicle, the events are muted; the reader does not get the feeling of the intense preoccupation of Alabama planters with Secession that has come down to us from other sources. But the relationships of the women are ably portrayed; the writing is polished and will hold the interest without starting controversy around the dinner table. The title is taken from a line in Stephen Vincent Benet's poem, **John Brown's Body.** The author is the wife of another novelist, Gerald Breckenridge. (Alfred A. Knopf, $3.)

* * *

Father and Son on a Trawler.

Troubled Waters, by Roger Vercel. Tugboats and trawlers are indelibly stamped on the mind of this French author, so that he returns to them for backgrounds of his stories. Although he broke away and developed a different theme with considerable success in **Tides of Mont St. Michel**, he now develops an action on board a French fishing vessel that travels to Iceland to fish for cod off those frigid shores. The central character is a rough, explosive captain named Villeneur, who is miffed because his 18-year-old son, who ought to be studying civil engineering, insists on traveling with him as a hand. As they say farewell to the captain's wife at Boulogne, it is evident that the son has an antagonism for his mother, though he conceals the reason from his father.

The reader may follow the story from there on, with the assurance that the mystery is solved in the final pages; it is, however, scarcely more than short story material, save for the author's knowledge of trawlers. The captain's ire when the trawler fouls a plank in its propeller and has other mishaps is genuine. Some of the violent denunciations become comic when they include such phrases as: "You horse marine! You sleepy remitance man!" Details of trawling for cod, such as sudden rising of a trawl full of fish because the air bladders of the cod swell up, will interest landlubbers. The story element, however, is weaker than in Vercel's earlier writings. (Random House, $2.50.)

W. E. B. Du Bois's

DUSK OF DAWN

The autobiography of the great Negro American educator and writer, the culmination of a notable career of letters and scholarship, and an autobiography of a special kind, explicit in the subtitle: "An Essay Toward an Autobiography of a Race Concept." $3.00

DEC 7 1940

* * *

SAPPHIRA AND THE SLAVE GIRL, by Willa Cather. Published by Alfred Knopf; 295 pages, $2.50.

DEC 29 1940

NANCY, THE BEAUTIFUL MULATTO SLAVE GIRL, whose father was an artist, is the leading figure in this poignant drama of a jealous wife and an innocent husband. The action takes place in Virginia just before the outbreak of the Civil War.

When Sapphira Dodderidge married the miller, Henry Colbert, her friends spoke of it as a "long step down." Thus it came about that Sapphira packed her belongings and moved several days journey from her home. She built her husband a mill, and she herself tended the big mill house and bossed her slaves. Illness overcame Sapphira, and her life was lived in a wheel chair.

Jealousy, because of the kind consideration Henry showed Nancy, began to torment the ailing woman. Sapphira thinks up many ways to torture the young girl, who is unaware of the reason, because her love for the master is like that of a child for its kindly protector.

These facts sound commonplace enough. But they are not what makes Willa Cather's last book the superb book it is. The beauty of the story is in the lives of the African slaves. Each slave has his or her history, and it is a thrilling bit of reading. The description of 90-year-old Jezebel's trip on the slave ship and her experiences after landing in the colonies; Uncle Jeff's life and his cruel position as the husband of a parlor maid who is not to have children because of the inconvenience to the mistress . . . these and many intimate, pathetic, pictures of the lives of slaves who lived in a good home, makes the book a living document.

Slave Cabin Is Scene Of Writing Of Play Based On New Novel

Age-Herald 8-4-40 Birmingham, Ala.

Negro's 'Native Son' To Be Dramatized By Pair; Rough Draft Completed

BY HOKE NORRIS

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.—(AP)—In a rough cabin that once was the home of slaves, Paul Green and Richard Wright are dramatizing Wright's novel, "Native Son," a story of Negroes.

The young Negro author of the year's sensational novel came to Chapel Hill for the collaboration at Green's suggestion.

Wright brings to the dramatization the knowledge of one who has seen at first-hand the operation of forces which lead to such brutal crimes as he describes in his novel.

Green contributes the dramatic artistry of a trained playwright, the artistry which in 1927 won him the Pulitzer prize for "In Abraham's Bosom."

Naturally, the story of Bigger Thomas, Wright's hero, is presenting problems, which the writers hope to surmount in time for Orson Welles and John Housman to produce the play in New York next season.

Working in the cabin near Green's home two miles from here, the two have completed the first rough draft of the drama—"very rough," Green said — but still haven't determined how to end it.

In the novel, Bigger Thomas, awaiting execution for the murder of a young white woman, realizes, if hazily and dimly, the true purport of his act. He sees also the full scope of the forces which have driven him to commit the crime. It is a powerful psychological passage but not easily adapted to the stage It may be presented in a monologue.

Also, Green and Wright are considering the use of music to heighten the dramatic effect. However, Green said only one scene could be easily given a musical background and the need for music was mostly technical, to fill the actionless blanks between scenes.

"When you have a great number of scenes" (as "Native Son" is likely to have), said Green, "you need something like music to carry the audience from one scene to another."

"Native Son" will be Green's fourth New York appearance. His first three plays—"In Abraham's Bosom," "The House of Connelly" in 1931, and "Johnny Johnson" in 1937—were written by him alone.

His novel, "Laughing Pioneer," published in 1932, has been dramatized and may be produced on Broadway; and he said he had in mind an original drama which he hopes would also be presented soon. So, conceivably, these and "Native Son" may run simultaneously.

Despite his success in Broadway, in Hollywood and in his own state, Paul Green is still in many ways the unaffected farm boy he was when he first entered the University of North Carolina, where he now teaches in the drama department. He still talks in the drawl of the section from which he came —Hartnett County, in Central North Carolina, on whose sandy loam he farmed. And he still likes to farm. At his home he raises "corn and potatoes and things like that."

"We did that at home," he said, "and I'm glad to get back to it. It always did kind of irk me to have to buy things from a grocery store."

Green is 46. He was graduated at the university in 1921—after a period of war service—and did graduate work there and at Cornell. He taught philosophy at the university for a while but went to the drama department when he found that the teaching of many different philosophies might be robbing him of one of his own.

He has spent some time in Hollywood, writing for the movies, but he and Hollywood are on mutual bad terms. He has had some unkind words to say about motion picture making as practiced, though he thinks the medium is "marvelous" and is the first great outlet for art developed in the Machine Age.

"The last time I was in Hollywood," he recalled, "I had an assignment, and I hired me a hotel room and got me a dictaphone and finished it, and then went and put it on their desk and asked 'em could I go home, they said I could, and I came home."

Unsolved Problem.

THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA—By Virginia Writers' Project. Hastings House, New York. 380 pp. Illustrated. $2.50.

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To Virginia's shores the first black man was brought and enslaved. His life there until emancipation was one of direct misery, tempered here and there by superficial pleasure. In the squalid little cabins of the slave row of great plantations, he labored from dawn until setting sun for "ole mars'." Failure to perform duties or the slightest infringement of the severe black laws brought down beatings or dismemberment of his head.

Almost every Negro was overjoyed when emancipation came. With forty acres and a mule he began life anew as a free farmer. But his new status brought up problems which yet remain to be solved. The Negro has had a great share in Virginia's farming, industry, and society. It remains to be seen whether he will come into a share of his labors.

This book, compiled by Negro and white workers of the Writers' Project of the WPA in Virginia, shows an enormous amount of careful and painstaking research. For the most part, it is very fair and unprejudiced, sticking to verified fact only. It should be read because it concerns an economic and social problem on which everyone should be informed and also because it is entertaining reading.

JEANNE OSBORNE.

Afro-American 8-3-40 Baltimore, Md.

Paul Green, noted playwright and author (left) and Richard Wright (right), author of "Native Son," are shown above as they prepare the script for a stage production based on the book, at Chapel Hill, N.C., where Mr. Green is a professor at the University of North Carolina. Orson Welles is expected to produce the play this fall.

WPA Writers Give Public Review of Negro Activities in Book, 'Cavalcade of the Negro'

CHICAGO. — A history recounting the heroic exploits of the Negro as a soldier and sailor in the defense of this country has appeared, for the first time, under the auspices of the WPA Writers' Program.

The book, "Cavalcade of the American Negro," also gives a vivid picture of the Negro's participation in the economic, civil and cultural growth of the nation. The miracle of his winning a place in America is described in the publication, produced by the Illinois Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration in conjunction with the American Negro Diamond Jubilee Exposition being held in Chicago through September 2.

"The Negro laid claim to American citizenship by early demonstrating through deeds of heroism, loyalty and intrepidity, his willingness to defend the country of his adoption in its wars," the book states. "It was a black man, Crispus Attucks, who became the first to sacrifice his life in the American Revolution at the Boston Massacre in 1770. At Bunker Hill another Negro, Peter Salem, fired the shot that wounded the British officer, Major Pitcairn. And at Brandywine Beach a giant Negro called Sampson bravely charged the British salient armed only with a scythe.

Black Soldiers Helped

"Black soldiers were sent from every colony to bolster the hard pressed American forces. In all, it is estimated that at least 3,000 Negroes saw service in the Colonial Armies, each regiment carrying an average of about 35. General Washington's personal command is said to have had over 700 colored soldiers on August 24, 1778. The resistance put up by Negro troops covered the retreat of the American and French forces from Savannah on October 9, 1779."

The "Cavalcade of the American Negro" states that 2,290,527 registrants of the race were included under the Selective Service Act during the last World War. Of this number, 342,277 were placed in full military service. About 200,000 Negro troops landed in France to fight in the front line trenches and to perform stevedore work and other duties required by the emergency. Fourteen hundred Negroes held commissions ranging from second lieutenant to major.

The deeds of these officers and the enlisted men under them won for many of the armed units the Distinguished Service Medals, the Croix de Guerre, and other honors. Their bravery and conduct on the field of battle earned tributes from their American commissioners as well as the British and French Allies.

One hundred and eighty thousand Negro soldiers fought in the Civil War, in which their big stake was the freedom of their own people, the "Cavalcade" recalls. They manned 161 regiments, of which 141 were infantry, seven cavalry, 12 heavy artillery and one light artillery.

Gallant at Lake Erie

The heroism of the Negro sailors at the Battle of Lake Erie won the praise of Commander Perry and led to the formation of a Negro regiment to join the Army at Sackett's Harbor.

"The foremost Negro scientist is George Washington Carver, a former slave, now head of agricultural research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute," says the section on science and invention. "Dr Carver's laboratory labors have produced hundreds of commercial and industrial products from the sweet potato, the pecan and the peanut."

Professor Ernest E. Just, of Howard university, holds unique rank in the field of biology. Charles Henry Turner, of Clark university, in addition to following a brilliant teaching career, has conducted noteworthy research dealing with the life of bees and ants. James A. Parsons, of Dayton, Ohio, has contributed valuable additions to the fund of human knowledge, in electrochemistry and electro-metallurgy. The book recites how in these and other scientific fields the Negro, in industry or the college laboratory, has demonstrated his ability at independent research.

The Negro Workers of Virginia

THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA. Compiled by Workers of the Writers' Program of the Work Projects Administration in the State of Virginia. Sponsored by the Hampton Institute. With photographs and historical map. 380 pp. New York: Hastings House. $2.50.

TWO years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth an English ship sailed from the colony of Virginia on an errand that was "partly commerce and almost certainly privateering; and back to Virginia some months later came either that ship or a companion it had picked up at sea (the details are disputed), bringing twenty Africans captured from a Spanish frigate, this country's first "black ivory." To this distant date do the authors of "The Negro in Virginia" carry their comprehensive and vital survey. "In a real sense the story of the Negro in Virginia is also the story of the American Negro," says Roscoe E. Lewis, supervisor of Negro workers, in the preface to the book, "for the roots of more Negro families were nurtured in Virginia than in any other State. It has been our aim," he adds, "to tell impartially of the springs that watered these roots and of the droughts that withered them." And in this impartial and objective aim the white and Negro workers who have cooperated in the book's production have succeeded admirably.

The history of the Negro in the United States begins in Virginia in 1619. It was realized before long that the Africans made better workers than the Indians. Moreover, the importation of laborers was a factor in land acquisition, since free acres were allotted as so many per head in each planter's household. In 1637 the first American slave ship sailed from Marblehead, Mass. At the end of the century there were about 6,000 Negroes in Virginia, and the number was being added to at the rate of about 2,000 a year. But the first Negroes who came to the colony were not slaves.

They were indentured servants, like the white servants brought from England. One of them, Anthony Johnson, who is thought to have arrived about 1621, was evidently free within a year or two, accumulated property, imported servants of his own, and assembled "perhaps a dozen native Africans in what was the first Negro community in America." Slavery was established by Act of Council in 1661. But in 1778 Virginia, under Governor Patrick Henry, was the first State to forbid the importation of any slave—anticipating thus by thirty years the Federal abolition of the slave traffic.

The life of the plantation Negroes of "Old Virginia" has been examined in great detail and is presented in clear classification and picturesque anecdotal form, as well as with general statements.

After the war, and emancipation ("Oh baby! Dem Freedom Days! Never was no time like 'em befo' or since!"), and Reconstruction, and the passage of discriminatory laws, the authors bring their record down to the present with more familiar material which has to do with Negro achievement, education and economic problems. The book has a fifteen-page bibliography. It is illustrated with fifty-four photographs and old prints, diverse and informative. It is full-packed with human fact and interest.

Educator Hits 'Native Son'

Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK — Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, noted educator speaking at Mother AME Zion Church, Sunday, insisted that Richard Wright's "Native Son" would not have been accepted by colored people had it not been acclaimed first by the white race.

OCT 5 1940

Book is Propaganda

Dr. Brown, president of the Palmer Memorial Institute, Sedalia, N.C., believes the book is mere propaganda, and refuses to read it thoroughly because of its language. She further stated that the colored race must learn to discover more of its talent and genius and not wait for white people to discover it.

Other persons on the program were: Fred R. Moore, New York publisher, the Rev. Dr. B. C Jonathan Brice and Daisy Har ing.

To Publish Book on October 23 on Negro's Part in Farm Program

OCT 4 1940

NEW YORK. — "Plowing Through," a story of the Negro in agriculture, written by Edwin Ware Hullinger, will be published on October 23 by the William Morrow and company.

"Agriculture," says the author, "means more to more American Negroes than does any other occupation or industry. More Negroes are earning their living from the land today than in any other way. To the Negro the nation owes the cultivation of a large part of two of its major crops, cotton and tobacco. It is, consequently, of importance to the nation as a whole that the Negro be in a position to do his work efficiently."

Mr. Hullinger has been a foreign correspondent, a motion picture writer and a producer. His book is actually a story in pictures, the brief text enlarging upon the story told in the unusual photographs.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Job Survey Shows N. Y. Youths' Nightmare Plight

Welfare Council Publication Reveals Youth Face 'No Job for You' Edict; Negroes Hardest Hit Among City's Million Youngsters

A dramatic emphasis of the "no job for you" kind of existence which faces American youth today is made in "The Youth of New York City," a survey of New York City youth between the ages of 16 and 25, published yesterday.

The book, whose authors are Nettie Pauline McGill and Ellen Nathalie Matthews, was issued by the Research Bureau of the Welfare Council of New York City and is based upon interviews with some ten thousand young people in the five boroughs of New York City.

While the book does not mention the 1940 "draft by conscription," which has become youth's invitation to maturity, it presents a stark portrait of the terrible search for jobs that has turned the youth period into a nightmare of hunger and wandering.

Relating that as far back as 1935 "only one-half of the young workers who wished work were actually employed," the book reveals that

". . . The prevailing unemployment of this decade, though bearing heavily upon workers of all ages, has borne most heavily upon youth. Young workers have not been getting their proportionate share even of such jobs as have been available. Moreover, unable to get experience without work, unable to get work without experience, youth has a unique class of potential unemployables. Once so certain of a place in the economic system, many high school and college graduates are finding it impossible to get a foothold."

The million youth in New York City, the survey reveals, include 490,000 Roman Catholics, 310,000 Jews, and 180,000 Protestants.

NEGRO YOUTH

The special problems confronting Negro youth is dealt with in a chapter of the book, which brings out the slender chances for employment of Negro young people forced to compete with others for jobs in a city where discrimination is rampant.

"The employment history of New York City Negro youth of the 1930's reflects their narrow opportunities, aggravated by depression conditions," the book points out. "Like their elders, they are largely confined to service occupations and to common labor. They have part-time and short-time jobs, when they have any, and long stretches of unemployment. When they work full-time they have longer hours than white youth, and they earn less."

In a city where education is supposed to be more general and of a higher standard than anywhere else in the country, the survey points out that even in 1935 less than half of the young people who entered high school stayed to complete their courses.

"One of the most serious aspects of the situation is that those who need schooling most are the ones that drop out. As a rule those from the most handicapped homes have earliest. Although 42 per cent from white-collar homes had completed a high school course **only 20 per cent of the sons and daughters of manual workers had done so. Only about 1 in 10 Negro youth had finished high school.**" (Daily Worker emphasis).

On the question of health, the survey refers to the fact that the period from 16 through 24 years of age is supposed to be one of comparatively little illness and disease, "yet more than 50,000 of these million youth were handicapped by chronic illness, defects and disabilities."

CRAVE CULTURE

Pointing to the excellent response to the drop-in-the-bucket WPA recreational program of the past, the book emphasizes the great craving of young people in New York City for healthful and cultural recreation.

". . . The young men and women of New York City need more swimming pools, more playfields, more tennis courts, and they need to have them in many different sections of the city, if they are to have the opportunity they crave and need for physical activity. They need more camp sites, more picnic grounds, more leadership in hiking, in camping, and in nature study. They need more free music and more free drama. . . ."

Book Begins With Race At Jamestown

"The Negro In Virginia" Well Illustrated

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the last of two articles reviewing the contest of the classic historical survey, "The Negro in Virginia," compiled and published by the WPA Writers Project in the Old Dominion. This book destroys many of the misconceptions about Negro history which are taught in school books and other literature. It corrects false impressions about the Negro's place in the past and present. For an economical way to purchase this interesting and informative book, turn to page 5.

* * * *

"The Negro in Virginia" is divided into four parts. First treated is the period that began with the landing of the first Africans at Jamestown and that ended with the Revolutionary war. Then comes the ante-bellum period, ending with the emancipation proclamation; then the period of the reconstruction; and finally the contemporary scene.

SLAVE ESCAPES

One chapter deals with the underground railroad, principal means by which many slaves were aided to freedom. Rebellions and other forms of active protest initiated and carried out by free Negroes, white persons and the slaves themselves are described. These protests that spread throughout slave-holding states are held largely responsible for the freedom of a half-million Negroes living lives similar to American citizens prior to the Civil war.

"The Negro in Virginia" devotes considerable space to the Negro as an important factor in the economic, industrial, civic, and cultural life of the Old Dominion and of the deeper South. Employing simple, direct but powerful style, the book analyzes the Negro as a field hand, a creative artist, a coal miner, a business man, a munitions worker, a journalist and a soldier. The Negro's work in education, in religion and in the founding of fraternal organizations is discussed.

ILLUSTRATIONS

More than 50 illustrations, including rare prints and photographs, are grouped under four sections of the book entitled "Out of the Past," "City and Farm," "Education and Music" and "A Living to Make."

Of considerable interest are the photographs originally taken by W. Lincoln Highton, of the Federal Works Agency's photographic division, and Robert McNeill, young Negro photographer of Washington who served on the Virginia project. Several early photographs, taken by the celebrated Matthew Brady, are also reproduced.

William H. Moses, Jr., architectural instructor at Hampton drew the tailpieces for the book and the pictorial map used as front and end papers. Sources for other pictures published in "The Negro in Virginia" are the U. S. Army Signal corps, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the FSA, the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Scurlock Studio, Washington, D. C.

Heroism Of Race Soldiers Recounted In New Book

Defender 8-24-40

A history recounting the heroic exploits of the Negro as a soldier and sailor in the defense of this country has appeared, for the first time, under the auspices of the WPA Writers' Program. Chicago.

The book, "Cavalcade of the American Negro," also gives a vivid picture of the Negro's participation in the economic, civil and cultural growth of the nation. Ill.

The miracle of his winning a place in America is described in the publication, produced by the Illinois Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration in conjunction with the American Negro Diamond Jubilee Exposition being held in Chicago through September 2.

"The Negro laid claim to American citizenship by early demonstrating through deeds of heroism, loyalty, and intrepidity, his willingness to defend the country of his adoption in its wars," the book states. "It was a black man, Crispus Attucks, who became the first to sacrifice his life in the American Revolution at the Boston Massacre in 1770.

"At Bunker Hill another Negro, Peter Salem, fired the shot that Pitcairn, and at Brandywine Beach a giant Negro called Sampson bravely charged the British salient armed only with a scythe."

The deeds of Race heroes are recounted through every war in which the United States has been engaged.

In summarizing conveniences and comforts made possible to American consumers and industry since the Civil War, "Cavalcade of the American Negro" cited a large number of other inventions made possible through the creative efforts of descendants of slaves.

New Facts About Negro Revealed

Journal & Guide 8-10-40

Norfolk, Va.

'Negro In Virginia' Paints Accurate Picture of Slavery

EDITOR'S NOTE: An economical way to purchase this valuable book is offered to those interested in an advertisement on Page 5 of this edition of the Journal and Guide.

RICHMOND, Va., (ANP)—The 20 Africans who were landed at Jamestown during 1619 and their successors for many years following were not slaves but indentured servants. William Tucker, baptized at Jamestown in 1624, was probably the first Negro born in this country. The institution of slavery was not legally sanctioned in the Old Dominion until 1654. The first recorded revolt against slavery, moreover, was initiated by slaves themselves in the year 1687, and other revolts occurred before the Revolutionary war in 1776.

12 WORKERS

These are some of the many, little-known facts which are set forth in "The Negro in Virginia," first state history of the Negro, produced by the Virginia Writers' project of the Work Projects Administration.

Sponsored by Hampton Institute, the project employed an average of 12 highly qualified Negro research workers, writers, and other white-collar personnel. They worked under the general direction of Mrs. Eudora Ramsay Richardson, state supervisor of the Virginia Writers' project.

MORE THAN HISTORY

Roscoe E. Lewis, of the department of chemistry at Hampton, was primarily responsible for the book. He prepared the initial draft and later supervised the task of producing a book which upsets various ideas of the Negro in American life and is regarded as an example of what is possible in interracial cooperation and good will.

Throughout every step leading to its production, Sterling Brown, former editor on Negro affairs for the WPA writers program, gave time, attention and his prestige in the field of American literature to "The Negro in Virginia."

The book is something more than a history. Through nearly 400 pages, it not only delves deeply into facts little known to the American public and often neglected by historians but paints a social picture with bold strokes.

How It Feels To Be a Negro

Most white folks suppose that all colored folks are low class. Not so. U. S. Negroes "differ socially among themselves as far as the poles," have at least six classes: lower-lower, upper-lower, lower-middle, middle-middle, upper-middle, upper. Upper-class Negroes describe their inferiors as "the common, ignorant sort of niggers." It is his class, rather than his race, which determines a Negro's behavior, personality, ambitions. Chicago, Ill.

Basing their investigations on this fact, two sociologists—one white, one Negro—last week made a report on what it means to be born a Negro in the U. S. They had studied some 30 Negro adolescents of all classes in Natchez and New Orleans, summed up their findings in eight case studies (*Children of Bondage*—American Council on Education, Washington, D. C.—$2.25).

The authors were Dr. John Dollard, of Yale's Institute of Human Relations, and Allison Davis, head of the social studies department at Dillard University, now lecturing at University of Chicago. Allison Davis, a light-skinned, upper-class Negro, has degrees from Williams and Harvard, studied at the London School of Economics, won so many honors at Williams that he got a prize for winning prizes. Time

Authors Dollard & Davis sketched in their background with a few statistics: *e.g.*, in Natchez the average Negro family's income is less than $400 a year; one child in three is a bastard. A Pullman porter rates as middle-middle class; a family with $250 a month is upper-middle class; more than three-fourths of Negroes are lower class; a Negro's social standing rises according to the lightness of his skin, the straightness of his hair. Case histories:

"Frightened Amazon." Dark, skinny Julia "Raddie" (for rowdy) Wilson, 16, is a member of a family sinking from lower-middle to lower class. Her father, a river roustabout, onetime bootlegger, consorts with prostitutes, quarrels violently with his family, once was axed by Julia's older sister. Her mother whipped Julia regularly from babyhood. "As a child, she was a favorite with the 'across-the-tracks' gang of boys and girls. They fought with rocks, knives and sometimes with pistols. At 14 she saw a boy badly stabbed by another in an argument over her at a school picnic. She married at 16, and had a fist-and-chair fight with her husband the first time she saw him after their marriage." 8-26-40

Julia "will do anything—fight a man, curse a teacher, or kiss a boy in the schoolyard." But she is sexually scared and she quit her husband as soon as she learned that her supposed pregnancy was only a stomach-ache. A gold-digger, she says: "When you get a sucker, bump his head." Of white folks: "I hate white people. I just like to beat on white people."

"Self-Made Man." Medium-brown Chester Olivier, 16, is also lower-middle class, the son of a Creole artisan who deserted his wife and four children for a mistress. But Chester is on the way up. Prodded by his ambitious mother, smart Chester is now a junior in a private prep school, active in dramatics, vice president of his class, goes to dances with light-skinned, upper-class girls, teaches Sunday school in the Methodist Church (higher in the social scale than his mother's Spiritualist Church), was recently voted "fifth most popular Negro in New Orleans." Chester had his first affair (with a Creole cousin) at nine, now has a young married woman as his mistress. Ashamed of his family (his brother is a prize fighter), Chester is often depressed, fears that poverty may prevent him from going to college and becoming a doctor. Once a white man chased him with a gun because, while hawking newspapers, Chester refused to stop yelling: "Louis K.O.'s Braddock." Chester says he hates white people. When white folks humiliate him, he "sees red," but is afraid to fight back.

Authors Dollard & Davis' conclusion: Negroes are doubly bedeviled by class and caste anxieties; one way to alleviate Negro problems is for society to visit less punishment on Negro children, more sympathetic understanding.

TIME, August 26, 1940

~~TIME, August 26, 1940~~

BIBLIOGRAPHY 1940

Hamitic Bible Rated High in Appearance and Content Quality

Afro-American
OCT 12 1940
Baltimore Md.

THE HAMITIC BIBLE. Published by A. J. Holman Co., Philadelphia, authorized standard King James version. Leather Bound, $8.75.

By LILLIAN JOHNSON

Beautifully bound in leather, printed in large, clear type on high quality paper, and ruled spaced so as to improve its appearance and its readability, this Bible cannot help but appeal to all friends of religion and of good literature.

The bible text, itself, is of the authorized standard King James version, complete with notes. The new testament is the popular red letter edition, in which all the sayings of Christ are set in red letters.

The bible has a number of pictures, some printed in colors while others are in black and white. Some of the pictures are paintings of scenes described in the bible, while others are photographs of towns or landmarks mentioned in the bible.

Pictures

Many of the pictures and paintings show persons of our race, including the pictures of Christ. The only pictures in which the subjects are white are those in which they were definitely known to be of the white race.

The preface to the old testament was written by the late Dr. R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute and just opposite it, there is a picture of Dr. Moton.

The pages set saide for family records are decorated with the pictures of our people.

Dr. John Malcus Ellison, professor of philosophy of Virginia Union University, has written a complete and easily understood outline entitled "The Hamitic Peoples of Biblical Times."

Beginning with Adam and Eve, he traces the course of every person of hamitic blood, and shows how the successive waves of other peoples affected them.

Contributions

Particular attention is given to the contributions of the Hamites, including religious thought, civil law, mechanical art, and the science of medicine, as well as the pyramids, and the Sphinx.

The bible also contains the words and music of ten of the best-lovd spierituals; a practical course in bible reading by Dr. Joseph V. Collins and about a hundred pages of biblical information, including tables of weights and measures and money of bible times, a complete dictionary of the bible; chronology; concordance; maps, and four thousand questions and answers of the old and new testaments.

Columbia S C State
October 6, 1940

Book on Negro In Agriculture

On October 23 William Morrow and company will publish **PLOWING THROUGH: The Story of the Negro in Agriculture** by Edwin Ware Hullinger.

"Agriculture," says the author, "means more to more American Negroes than does any other occupation or industry. More Negroes are earning their living from the land today than in any other way. To the Negro the nation owes the cultivation of a large part of two of its major crops, cotton and tobacco. It is, consequently, of importance to the nation as a whole that the Negro be in a position to do his work efficiently."

This book tells what has been done to help him. In carrying the story of the Negro farmer up to the present, the author shows how the ideas of Booker T. Washington have been carried out to an extent far beyond the hopes of the great educator. Not only has the Negro been taught how to farm most efficiently, but it has been made possible for him to avail himself of modern equipment.

Mr. Hullinger has been a foreign correspondent, a motion picture writer and a producer. His book is actually a story in pictures, the brief text enlarging upon the story told in the unusual photographs.

Caviar And Cabbage

By M. Beaunorus Tolson

OCT 12 1940

What Richard Wright Said To America in "Native Son"

Not since the publication of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" has a Negro novel created such a controversy in America. I've received many letters from readers of this column—letters passionate with conviction. I've heard the book discussed in Louisiana, Texas, Illionis, New York, and in other states. I've talked it over with professors and Pullman porters, society dames and washerwomen. It's been debated pro and con in magazines and newspapers.

In one of the radio quizzes the question was asked: "What is 'Native Son'?"

The person questioned didn't know. He was given the horse-laugh by the listeners in the radio station. Not to know "Native Son" is inexcusable ignorance. Putting on the misfitting robes of a professor, I did an article, "Richard Wright: Native Son," for *The Modern Quarterly*, published at 16 St. Luke's Place, New York City. It may interest some of those who want to go deeper into the subject.

At this time we shall take up some of the popular attributes of the book. Strange to say, I discover that ordinary Negroes understand the book better than the so-called educated group. A Pullman porter from Oklahoma City gave me a searching analysis of the volume, unexcelled by many Negro critics. Dr. Charlotte H. Brown, an eminent college president, missed entirely the main thesis of the book.

Washington Tribune

WHAT DID RICHARD WRIGHT SAY IN "NATIVE SON"?

It is hard to understand "Native Son." While the story is simple and dramatic, the thesis is difficult. Dick Wright's point of view is the point of view that all men will have a thousand years hence. He has put into the book the latest advances in economics, psychology, literary technique, and anthropology. In a word, his is the Marxian approach.

Bigger Thomas is the hero, you will say. No. . . . Society is in reality the hero. Society molds Bigger Thomas. Society makes him what he is. We little folk like to think that we are the masters of our fate and the captains of our souls. That is nineteenth-century stuff. Facts prove this theory a lie. Every idea we hold comes from Society. We are the pots. Society is the Potter. Only the greatest geniuses get a *new* idea in a lifetime. Even Shakespeare never gave the world a *new* idea. We pick up our ideas, good and bad, from Society. Accidents of birth and environments shape our lives.

Washington D.C.

Dick Wright succeeded in doing what no other writer in the history of America had guts enough to attempt. He took a "bad n....r" and made him a sympathetic, understandable character. He did this by showing us, with un-canny genius, the social and economic and racial forces that made Bigger Thomas a "bad n....r." Every black man in America ought to thank Dick Wright for doing that.

I realize now what Dick Wright meant, when he wrote me, before the completion of this epoch-making novel: "I am putting into 'Native Son' all the sinews of my mind and soul."

* * * *

VULGARITY IN "NATIVE SON"

I don't have time to go into this question of vulgarity in works of fiction. Some miseducated Negroes call "Native Son" vulgar. Such Negroes are ignorant, of course. No student of contemporary literature would call "Native Son" vulgar. Most of your moving pictures and goody-goody novels are vulgar. I can understand how small boys seduce little girls in dark doorways and middle-aged husbands commit adultery, after having seen Heddy Lamarr swooning under the passionate kisses of Robert Taylor or Clark Gable. Goody-goody people say nothing about this vulgarity. Big advertisers show us naked women in flimsy garments twisting their sleek bodies into postures that would make an ice-berg melt. Nobody objects to this.

Washington Tribune

IT UP

a doctor who seduced the wife of his friend in d; yet he was shocked by the "vulgarity" of a artist like Langston Hughes. I knew a daughter er, both married, who were going with the same n; yet the daughter called "Native Son" vulgar.

* * * *

Langston Hughes describes this scene in a novel, oody folks say Langston Hughes is vulgar. This h: human beings themselves are vulgar; true describe vulgar human beings are not vulgar. rophets in the Bible were not vulgar when they ividly the fleshpots of Babylon—how the fornicaulterers "strutted their stuff." Gossips are vulal-mongers are vulgar.

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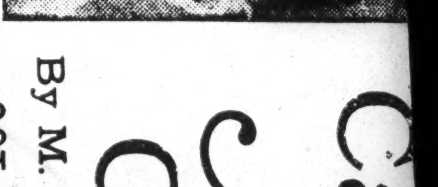

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VULGARITY IN "NATIVE SON"

I don't have time to go into this question of vulgarity in works of fiction. Some miseducated Negroes call "Native Son" vulgar. Such Negroes are ignorant, of course. No student of contemporary literature would call "Native Son" vulgar. Most of your moving pictures and goody-goody novels are vulgar. I can understand how small boys seduce little girls in dark doorways and middle-aged husbands commit adultery, after having seen Heddy Lamarr swooning under the passionate kisses of Robert Taylor or Clark Gable. Goody-goody people say nothing about this vulgarity. Big advertisers show us naked women in flimsy garments twisting their sleek bodies into postures that would make an iceberg melt. Nobody objects to this.

But when a sincere artist, with righteous indignation, reveals misguided human beings in everyday life, the mouth-Christians yell, "Murder! Vulgarity!"

When you go to the average dicty dance, you see the society dames and the Big Boys locked so tightly that they couldn't separate immediately if Gabriel blew his horn. The ladies roll their eyes in blissful agony as they cling to their gentleman friends who perspire like Sambo in a Texas cotton-patch. Nobody calls this vulgarity.

But if a Langston Hughes describes this scene in a novel, the goody-goody folks say Langston Hughes is vulgar. This is the truth: human beings themselves are vulgar; true artists who describe vulgar human beings are not vulgar. Those old prophets in the Bible were not vulgar when they described vividly the fleshpots of Babylon—how the fornicators and adulterers "strutted their stuff." Gossips are vulgar. Scandal-mongers are vulgar.

* * * *

SUMMING IT UP

I knew a doctor who seduced the wife of his friend in a graveyard; yet he was shocked by the "vulgarity" of a poem by an artist like Langston Hughes. I knew a daughter and a mother, both married, who were going with the same married man; yet the daughter called "Native Son" vulgar.

Perhaps she saw herself in the novel. When a photographer photographs us as we are, we may hate the photographer!

Most Negroes cannot understand "Native Son" because they do not read the best modern fiction—Faulkner, Hemingway, Caldwell, Basso, Stribling, Dos Passos, Steinback, Upton Sinclair, Lewis, Dreiser, Anderson, Maltz. When you read these great realists who will be read five hundred years from now, you can't get much of a kick out of Margaret Mitchell, Fannie Hurst, Edna Ferber, and Faith Baldwin.

The truth will make you free. Either that's a lie or it's the truth. If it's the truth then a writer should picture life as it is; otherwise he's a liar.

I am surprised that "Native Son" became so popular. Dick Wright has said the same thing. Southern critics praised it. A tribute, indeed! Any race should be proud of a Richard Wright. After you've heard Negro misleaders discuss the race question, you feel like sentencing them to fifty years in jail with "Native Son" as their companion. If every Negro leader could see what Dick Wright sees, the race would advance by leaps and bounds. Today, no Negro has to hang his head when he looks at the dirty and illiterate Negro masses. America is to blame for the black masses and white masses. Bigger Thomas is a condemnation of white "civilization."

The black Bigger Thomases say to white America: "You made me what I am today."

SOUTHERN YOUTH PROBLEM ANALYZED

Limited Education, Due to Need of Helping on Family Income, Called Chief Handicap

LOW EARNINGS A RESULT

OCT 20 1940

By GEORGE HATCHER

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 19—Southern economists and social welfare workers have before them the results of a monumental University of North Carolina survey, an analysis of which may be looked upon as revealing some answers to the vital question why the South is "the nation's No. 1 economic problem" and as furnishing a clue to a possible solution of the problem of the "ill-fed, ill-clothed and ill-housed" families. At the same time, it emphasizes that such a solution would likely lead to a new problem.

The study, called "Paths to Maturity," is a 3,000-page volume of mimeographed sheets, the fruit of eighteen months of research and compilation—a statistical and sociological study of 45,000 boys and girls, white and black, from 6 to 25 years of age, living in eight counties of North Carolina.

The survey places emphasis upon the fact that the more straitened the circumstances of a family, the greater the number of children they have and therefore the greater the obstacles to be overcome.

The study illustrates that the status of such families is due more to the lack of education than to any other cause, indicating that if adequate provisions were made for these families, so that children would not be compelled to leave school before they had completed their education, self-supporting incomes would show a rise.

Youth and Its Jobs

On the other hand, the analysts estimate that if each youth who expressed the desire for a particular occupation actually entered that field, the State in ten years would have half of its wage-earners engaged in the so-called learned professions and would be compelled to import laborers and servants.

The effect of education on income is illustrated as follows: "The white fathers who never went to school earn a mean annual income of $861; those who graduated from high school average $1,652; those who went to college average $1,889. Negro fathers who never went to school average $692 in income, compared with $850 for high school graduates and $990 for those who attended college."

"Native Son" Author Has Book Reissued

OCT 26 1940

NEW YORK.—A new and enlarged edition of "Uncle Tom's Children," written by Richard Wright, author of "Native Son," has just been announced by Harper and Brothers, publishers.

Uncle Tom's Children was the first of Wright's two books and won a prize offered by Story Magazine to the best manuscript submitted by a writer on WPA projects throughout the nation.

In a Negro Slum

LIGHT OVER RUBY STREET *By Edward Harris Heth. 294 pp. New York: Smith & Durrell.* $2

SEP 1 1940

RUBY STREET runs through the Cabbage Patch familiar to the Negro slum district attached to every big Northern city. The people of Ruby Street have had a long, hard way to travel in a land made alien to them, and the hard road continues to stretch out before them, with blind alleys at every turn. Only the few are able to get away from Ruby Street, and that is sometimes the hardest way of all. Most must live their lives in it, for there is no other road for them to travel. And in Ruby Street one lives as the Ruby Streeters do—as children lost and insecure, eagerly seeking joy where it is to be had and comfort where it is to be found and Lethe when the miseries are not to be borne. Like children, too, Ruby Streeters live double lives—one life close to physical realities and desires, the other in a world of play-acting and make-believe. But in this respect, as in all the others, we discover that Ruby Street merely holds the mirror up to all mankind.

Mr. Heth's novel contains no such generalizations, for he is writing a story intended as superior entertainment for gentle readers of good-will not too easily shocked; but they seemed pertinent as an introduction to the meaning behind a little tale which is more easily read than forgotten. Mr. Heth has observed his people from the outside, taken them as they are, or as he sees them, without gratuitous comment, written of every man in his humor and woven their lives into a three-act drama that is an all too human comedy.

To Ruby Streeters the marihuana joint Mrs. Wakefield runs in her apartment is not a den of vice but a meeting place where to spend a few hours in dreamy sociability over the bliss-provoking weed. It is there by chance that Aggie Jacks meets Terrence and Clarence, the vaudeville team, heretofore strangers to Ruby Street, for they had been on the big ti[redacted] the world outside. The [redacted]rence is an ardent lover[redacted]s the melancholy, refined and cryptic Clarence to whom Aggie turns for help out of her troubles. These are bound up with Ruby Street's constant absorption in the question of color in all its shadings.

It is not for herself any longer that Aggie hopes. She is only half white and not light enough. She is 37 now and no longer attractive enough for white lovers. It is for her girl Julee that she pleads: Julee who had a white father and could be taken for a white girl anywhere, Julee whom she sends to the Normal School to learn white talk, who is given the best room in the home to herself while the rest of the family, Grandma Looby and Pa and the boy, little Milbo, and Aggie herself all sleep in the other bedroom. Poor Aggie, whose dreams are as fantastic as her marihuana mirages! Gentle Julee, whose best armor against an indulgent but overambitious, dominating and ignorant mother is her own simple willessness, her lack of either rebelliousness or ambition. Her emotions lead her straight to all she wants.

Black Pa has his dreams too, first to hit the lottery and then move to Harlem, where, in his fancies, black men become lords over the whites. Grandma Looby's gin-inspired fantasies hark back to her girlhood in the old South. But one always comes crashing down to earth and even Ruby Streeters at whiles are sober, except those who have lost all contact with reality, like Mrs. Libretto, who puts a telephone in her home in the vain hope somebody will call her up, or Mrs. Finn (more elegantly Mme. Geranium, the Finn), who fancies herself a social service worker and solemnly makes her rounds on Ruby Street, pad and pencil in hand: Sickz sleepi in oney 2 bedds. Veri kroudied. Oney I santiary plumm fisture (toilet) in bamesent. Not mudge to aet. Plenni dry baens, plenni pitattoos. No spimadge, no mulk, no nice rad radmishes. Ervibody veri happi. Sanks you mudge. Kep yr nos clen.

SEP 1 1940

It is at the Mother's Day ball under the auspices of the Emily Social Club, for which an all-white orchestra (Teddy Joy and His Joy Boys) has been hired to play and Clarence and Terrence to do their stuff, that the crisis begins to shape up. The ball drags out to its raucous, disorderly end. It is afterward at the Old Heidleberg barroom, with the white curiosity seekers mingled with the Ruby Streeters, that smoldering passions flare up. A great deal happens to the people of Aggie Jacks's household before the night is over.

SEP 1940

The story is not, of course, a novel of the American Negro people, but only of those who have drifted to, or been born in, some Ruby Street of the colored underworld of our Northern cities. As such it is to be read and understood, and as such, as well as a finished story of literary quality, it is worthy of high praise.

FRED T. MARSH.

New Book On Evangelism Just Off The Press

NOV 15 1940

"A Message and Program of Evangelism" is just off the press. It is edited by Rev. B. Julian Smith, General Secretary of the Board of Religious Education of the Colored ME church, and is published by the CME Publishing House at Jackson, Tennessee for the Third Episcopal District and the General Board of Religious Education. The book is divided in to two parts under the headings of "Evangelism among Age Level Groups" and "Types of Evangelism" Bishop J. Arthur Hamlett who presides over the Third Episcopal District contributed the Foreward or Introductory Statemen. Part One of the book carries the following topics: "Evangelism for Children" by Mrs. Lena A. Hamlett of Kansas City, the wife of Bishop Hamlett and Missionary Lecturer for the Third Episcopal District; "Educational Evangelism and Children" by Rev. J. C. Anderson, minister of Shreveport, Louisiana; "Educational Evangelism among Young People" by Rev. B. Julian Smith, the editor; "Some Notes on Educational Evangelism — Evangelism and Young People" by Dr. Bertram W. Doyle, Secretary of the Board of Education of the Colored ME church and "Evangelism" by Rev. A. C. Bailey, minister and instructor in Religion at Lane College, Jackson, Tennessee. All of these writers have contributed concise and workable methods of Evangelization which will be of great interest and help to all ministers, church workers and lay people interested in the religious education of young people.

Part Two of the book is composed of treatises on "Mass Evangelism, It's Psychological Aspect" by Rev. Joseph A. Johnson, Jr., young minister; "Mass Evangelism" by Rev. J. B Boyd, General Secretary of the Department of Superannuated Preachers Widows and Orphans; "Mass Evangelism" by Rev. F. L. Lewis, General Secretary of the Board of Kingdom Extension; "God's Big Business or Deep Water Fishing' by Rev. J. G. Collins, minister; "Personal Evangelism" by Rev. Giles R. Wright, minister, "Missionary Evangelism" by Mrs. M. E. J. Lane, Missionary Lecturer and wife of the President of Lane College, "Evangelizing Public Opinion through Propaganda" by Mrs Thelma N. Watson, religious worker among young people. All of these writers in their treatises on their subjects will create in the readers a clearer conception of the meaning of evangelism and the several types of evangelism as well as ways and means of making that conception workable among the people.

Rev. Smith, the editor of this fine work, is a young man who has accumulated wide experience in religious work and who has deep convictions concerning the carrying out of the principles of the teachings of Christ He is editor of the Church School Journal, a monthly magazine adapted to the use of church schools and other departments of religious education. "A Message and Program of Evangelism" is not the first book that he has had published but by many it is considered among his best.

This book may be secured from the CME Publishing House at Jackson, Tennessee, at fifty cents per copy, or sixty cents by mail.—W.M.

The Dark Metropolis

By Dale Douglas

NOV 17 1940

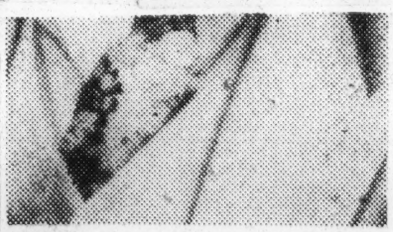
THE NEGRO POET, Claude McKay, now gives us his interpretation of the capital of brown America's heaven. He gives free rein to his own love of the fantastic in presenting us with the more spectacular figures that have flashed across the Harlem firmament.

Father Divine is as vigorous here as the most lurid Southern imagination pictures him. Squat, bald, stumbling in speech, he precedes his angels in the Lord's chariot—a huge, blue car with white doves for emblems. And the masses follow, giving generously from their mites to provision the ever growing heavens for the blessed. But from ancient sources we know that prophets always have a difficult time. Father Divine is no exception. Faithful Mary, one of the more brilliant lights in Father's heaven, fluttered unexpectedly in the strong breeze of wicked commercialism. Her sad story and other "inside" material on the problems of the Father are skillfully combined with the picture of a poverty stricken, peace loving people seeking security in a white world.

Behind the various groups of Harlem folk that march before us hangs this tragic backdrop. In the place of Bigger Thomas, of "Native Son," we find Father Divine, Marcus A. Garvey, Sufi Abdul Hamid, scores of other lesser figures. All are pressed in the mills of the white world. Yet each creates in his own way, some more fantastically than others, but still creating, for this is the very nature of man. Even the vast stumbling efforts of Father Divine illustrate in their own twisted way the Negro's creative humanity.

In no figure presented do we reconize the Negro's position in a white world better than in the grandiose and grotesque ambitions of Marcus Garvey. Like Moses and many other prophets faced with the oppression of their people, Garvey sought the path of escape. "Africa for the Africans," back to the original home of the Negro, back to the land of self-rule—away from the world of closed doors and restricted opportunity: Is it surprising that Garvey's call rekindled the fires of freedom in America's Negroes? Pouring out their earnings, trying to give substance to this shadowy dream, the Negro people were forced to learn again that escape is no longer the path to freedom. Garvey's Black Line of "freedom" ships was alternately a scandal, a joke, and finally a disaster. After being prosecuted and convicted for using the mails to defraud, and after serving time in prison, Garvey was deported to Jamaica. He died in exile this year in London. Despite his inglorious end, the Black Tiger had stirred the cramped soul of his people more than any contemporary.

MR. McKAY tells us of the numbers racket, of the Negro business and professional people of Harlem, of the occultists, of the Negro labor leaders. In vivid language he recounts the epic struggle of Negro labor to obtain jobs in Harlem stores that cater to Negro people. Literally after years of bitter picketing, and at least one large riot, the employers of Harlem saw the point.



FATHER DIVINE

His efforts, too, "illustrate in their own way the Negro's creative humanity."

In the recounting, Mr. McKay reveals the endless divisions within the ranks of the Negro people themselves. The Negro Communists are handled very roughly by Mr. McKay. He feels that their program calling for Negro and white unity in behalf of progressive social action is impossible. He thinks that the Negro's salvation lies in developing race consciousness rather than in fostering class consciousness. He floods the Negro Communists with personal abuse whenever he runs short of an argument.

Since Mr. McKay thinks that race prejudice is ineradicable, and that social inequalities cannot be rectified, he believes that the Negro's hope lies in building purely Negro organizations based on race improvement programs. This is the rationale for his tolerant attitude toward the various forms of escape offered the Negro people. For Father Divine, Marcus Garvey, the occultists, purely Negro labor unions have this in common; each is a form of escape from the circumscribing limits of the white world.

For the prejudice bound white, this volume will be treasured for its care in selecting as typical those Negro figures who best illustrate the widespread beliefs that Negroes are a superstitious, ignorant, foolish, happy, stupid people. However, careful reading will reverse this impression. Behind these fantastic figures, one begins to feel the great and often superb effort of the Negro people to assert and achieve the dignity that belongs to man.

"HARLEM: NEGRO METROPOLIS," by Claude McKay. (Dutton. $3.)

Want To Know About Harlemites and Their Businesses? Then Consult New Blue Book

NOV 16 1940

NEW YORK CITY (ANP)—One of the most complete listings of names of Harlem residents and businesses, "The New Harlem Blue Book," has just come from the printers and copies are now being distributed all over the nation.

Compiled and published by the New Harlem Directory Company, 200 West 135th Street, Emanuel Theodore, executive director, there have been 6,000 copies printed. It sells for $1 per single copy.

The book contains over 12,000 listings of Harlemites and other valuable information. As a ready reference, it aims to facilitate work and save time and money for those who wish to do business with the workers, professionals and business men of Harlem with its 400,000 population.

Attractively gotten up, it contains 88 pages. Special prices are offered group buyers and agents.

Journal & Guide
Norfolk Va.
NOTED 5 Pittsburgh
October 27 1940

The Literary Lantern

Richard Wright's "Uncle Tom's Children" Brought Out in Enlarged Form Now That His "Native Son" Has Caught the Country—Those Who Wonder What Negroes Think About White People Might Learn From It—"Plowing Through" Tells of Negro Farm Progress But Ignores Most of the Negro Problems—Sherwood Anderson's Knowledge of Small Towns.

By CARO GREEN RUSSELL

Richard Wright says that when he read the enthusiastic reviews of his first book, "Uncle Tom's Children," which he wrote several years ago, he realized at once that he hadn't written the book he had intended. It wasn't shocking enough. It didn't cut deeply enough into the bone and marrow of social consciousness. So he made up his mind to write a book that would do that. The book is "Native Son." Mr. Wright no doubt is satisfied with the public reaction to that story of horror.

In spite of the reviewers' praise of "Uncle Tom's Children," the book made only a small splash in the lietrary sea. Soon little or nothing was heard about it. But now that his "Native Son" has reached such heights of success that even the small-town Rotarians are reading it, it has been thought proper to bring out a new edition of his earlier book. We have just read "Uncle Tom's Children" for the first time and we wonder in just what way Mr. Wright could have failed to shock the reader. Here are stories (it is a collection of five long-short stories) that will chill the soul of anybody who cares to read.

* * *

This new edition is larger than the first. It has an autobiographical sketch which Mr. Wright calls "The Ethics of Living Jim Crow." And there is a new story. The autobiographical statement does not bother much with places and dates; its emphasis is upon episodes taken from Mr. Wright's own experience as a colored man in a white man's world. He does not philosophize, nor sum up, nor generalize in this sketch. He is rather always dramatic, always willing to report and let the stones fall where they may. He tells of the day his head was cut by a broken bottle thrown by a white boy. They were children and this was his first conscious taste of what it means for a Negro to fight boldly on an equal basis with white boys. He sat and brooded until late in the evening waiting meanwhile to tell his mother, for he felt she would sympathize. "When night fell, my mother came from the white folks' kitchen. I raced down the street to meet her. I could just feel in my bones that she would understand. I knew she would tell me exactly what to do next time. I grabbed her hand and babbled out the whole story. She examined my wound then slapped me.

"How come yuh didn't hide?" she asked me. "How come yuh awways fightin'?"

* * *

This was the beginning of Richard Wright's real education. After covering the high spots of his experiences up to manhood, and there are many such as only a Negro could tell, he closes his statement with this:

"How do Negroes feel about the way they have to live? How do they discuss it when alone among themselves? I think this question can be answered in a single sentence. A friend of mine who ran an elevator once told me:

"'Lawd, man! Ef it wuzn't fer them polices'n' them ol' lynch-mobs there wouldn't be nothin' but up roar here!'"

The Negroes of this land are fortunate in having one so gifted as Richard Wright to tell their story for them. And the white people are no less fortunate in that through him, especially, they can come face to face with the really tragic condition of millions of native sons and daughters who happen to be black. "Uncle Tom is dead," says this new generation. What does this statement of faith portend for the future? (Published by Harper, N. Y., $2.50.)

* * *

Edwin Ware Hullinger in a brief and fully illustrated book entitled "Plowing Through. The Story of the Negro in Agriculture" (William Morrow, N. Y., $1.50), surveys the aid that has been given the Negro, especially the Southern Negro, by the national farm program. We have no way of knowing how much Mr. Hullinger really knows about the farm Negro in the South, for his survey leaves the impression that all is well with him. The illustrations show, almost without exception, well-fed, well-dressed, and contented, smiling faces. A smokehouse filled with hams and side-meat, while the colored owner, sleek mules hitched to a cultivator; pipe in mouth, looks on with pride; an un-ragged fat man plowing two a well-dressed gathering of the 4-H Club; a young and smiling matron with her hand resting languidly on a glittering electric stove stationed on a corner of a streamlined kitchen, and so on.

* * *

We do not question the facts of Mr. Hullinger's survey. We only can say that these are not the North Carolina Negroes we have known all our lives and still see every day. And we wonder if their condition is much if any better in the States farther south where sometimes there are three or four Negroes to every white person. Mr. Hullinger might better have sub-titled his book "The Story of a Few Negroes in Agriculture."

* * *

Sherwood Anderson loves small towns and probably knows more about them than any other person writing today. For years he has lived in a small town and at one time edited two newspapers there, one Republican and the other Democratic. The time he must spend in the big cities is filled with impatience to get back among the small-town sights and familiar friends.

In the Face of America series which Alliance Book Corporation is sponsoring Mr. Anderson agreed to write the volume on the American small town. His book, "Home Town" (Alliance, N. Y., $2.50), is a marvel of understanding. In every line one feels Mr. Anderson's affection for his subject. He knows all the little ways of small-town life—how the boys and girls go courting, what the men talk about as they gather in front of the stores, with what ferocity the wives go about their spring cleaning while the husbands grumble at the disappearance of their "belongings." He says he is always puzzled by the young man who longs to leave his home town and venture out into the big cities. Of course Mr. Anderson does understand him, but he wonders what the adventurer is after that he cannot better have at home. Perhaps he is after "bigness." And then Mr. Anderson writes something that we think is really important:

* * *

"It may be that there is a bigness every man should seek, but the world is full now of false bigness, men speaking at meetings, trying to move masses of other men, getting a big feeling in that way; there's a trickiness in that approach to others—through applause, feeling a false power and importance. The Oak Hills are too small for such men. Their own houses are too small. They must have a great field, millions of men to listen to their voices."

* * *

Mr. Anderson has unobtrusively divided his book into typical aspects of small-town life and the surrounding countryside. The story unfolds from springtime to summer to fall to winter. The old-fashioned individualist gets a share of attention. The courthouse with its numerous lawyers eking out a small living, the petty criminal known by them all, the newspaper editor with his problems, the church, the school, the general hatred of labor unions and fear of "Reds." This is a book about the little things of life, which Mr. Anderson makes you feel are, after all, the biggest and most important. Small-town life has all the variety and human interest so lacking in big cities. It gives its people the chance to grow into whole individuals to a degree impossible elsewhere.

One cannot read Sherwood Anderson's nostalgic story without catching something of his affection for the small town. It is fully illustrated with photographs by the Farm Security photographers.

Southern Writers Of Today Sampled In New Compendium

SEP 22 1940

CONTEMPORARY SOUTHERN PROSE. Edited by Richmond Croom Beatty and William Perry Fidler. Heath. $2.50.

Though the publisher's blurb, that this book is "well proportioned and thorough," may be open to question, it is unquestionable that the editors, so far as academicians can, have produced a large and important representation of the work of Southern critics, essayists and short-story writers. Here are representative selections from 28 men and four women who have contributed richly to the Southern literary scene.

The basis on which these 32 writers were selected is not disclosed. Some of us who have made the study of contemporary Southern literature a major interest, would have substituted Cabell, Childers, Freeman, Glasgow, Green, Heyward, James, Kroll, Milton, Odum, Rutledge, Saxon and Stribling for Beatty, Brooks, Cason, Cheney, Dorrance, O'Donnell, Owsley, Robinson, Steele, Strode, Tillery, Vines and Webb.

In fact these 13 names omitted from the book were included in the list of 34 writers made up from answers to a questionnaire which I sent to 300 representative Southern litterateurs as I began the writing of the 34 lectures which I gave in 1938-1939 in the course on the Southern Literary Scene.

The names chosen by the questionnaire which also appear in this book are Bradford, Caldwell, Faulkner, Fisher, Johnson, Lytle, Peterkin, Ransom, Stuart, Tate, Warren, Wolfe and Young.

SEP 22 1940

If it be pointed out that this book is limited to critics, essayists and short-story writers, I reply that as many writers are listed in the book who do not qualify for these fields as there are in the list made up from the questionnaire.

In both lists, however, one finds emancipation from the mockingbird-magnolia-yes - massa school, and a wholesome preoccupation with the realistic problems of social reconstruction. Both lists are representative of that growing school of writers who would hold up a faithful mirror to Southern life, instead of portraying a life that seldom existed save in romantic imagination. The biographical sketches at the end of the book make a valuable appendix.

MARSHALL WINGFIELD.
Author and Lecturer.
Memphis, Tenn.

Closeup of Negro Youth Shown in New Study

CHILDREN OF BONDAGE

By Allison Davis and John Dollard (American Council on Ed., $2.25)

Reviewed by Hazel L. Griggs for ANP

SEP 21 1940

It's a fight for existence from his birth to his death for the underprivileged youth of "Children of Bondage," a veritable life of violence, and similar struggles, varying in intensity and type, surround southern Negro youth of all classes shown in this interesting study of personality development which has been traced by a pair of human historians, Allison Davis and John Dollard.

The Deep South is the background of the study with Natchez and New Orleans as focal points. The cases presented and developed for the reader are moving and substantially enlightening. Reasons for many actions of youth, which heretofore may have been hazy to the lay person, are effectively analyzed in a systematic series of personality portrayals excellently done.

"Children of Bondage," will undoubtedly leave the reader with a deeper insight into the reactions of youth, especially southern Negro youth, who are surrounded, perhaps more than any other group, with difficult life situations. The southern background is complete, and the boys and girls portrayed, some eight of them, are carried through the various stages from infancy to adolescence to show the effect of various outer forces and their impressions on the personality and mentality of the subject.

Plainly the authors show how normal reactions of growing boys and girls are molded and distorted by economic conditions, caste restrictions, and clique standards. Caste, among Negroes, has been found to be lower class, middle class, and upper class with several stratifications in each group. The class is determined by economic conditions, caste restrictions, clique standards, and educational attainments, and often greatly affected by skin color. Mobility from one strata to another is difficult, the authors report, but possible and frequently achieved by ambitious Negro youth.

"Children of Bondage" is not only interesting for the case narratives and findings it presents, but also for an exciting group of stories and a revealing survey of southern prejudice and its bearing on the personality of Negro youth. The reader finds himself reacting with the "self made" young man who has a shotgun poked into his back by a white man because he yelled "Louis K. O.'s Braddock," in selling his extra papers after the championship battle and of the other young paper vender who was hit across the mouth with an iron pipe by a group of white boys, and never talked again. The presentation of material, however, is strictly impersonal, and gives the impression of absolute fairness.

SEP 21 1940

"The Self-Made Man," a youth of 16, is one of the more interesting characters of the book. He makes this observation on southern oppression of the Negro: "When Negroes buy some guns and start shooting up some of the mobs and fight for their rights, white people will be glad to pass an anti-lynch bill to protect themselves."

Eight adolescents were chosen from over 200 young people interviewed for this statistical survey. A study of profound social and scientific importance, the book should be read by every Negro American.

Dubois' New Book Points Way Out Of Segregation

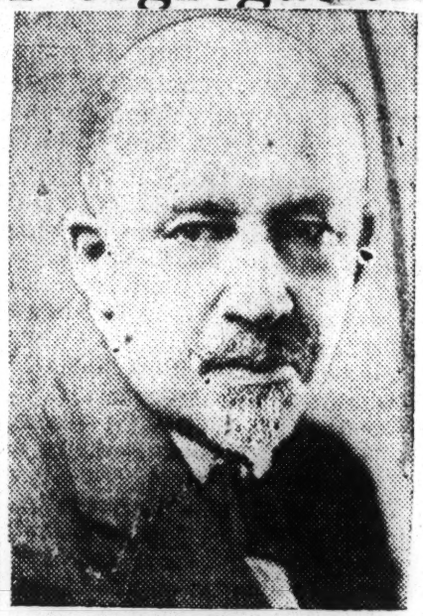
DUSK OF DAWN by W. E. B. DuBois, Harcourt, Brace and Co., N. Y., $3.00.

SEP 21 1940

By METZ T. P. LOCHARD

DUSK OF DAWN is the most enthralling, exhilarting and informative autobiography that has appeared on the American literary scene in a quarter of a century.

The author—Dr. W. E. Burghardt DuBois—distinguished for scholarship and literary skill, has achieved a remarkably faithful and vivid reproduction of the complex of American culture which is yet taxing the intellectual energy of the most persistent social scientist.



W. E. B. DuMOIS

It is no mere autobiography in the conventional sense. It is at once an analysis and interpreation of those significant areas of American society, American democracy in which Dr. DuBois himself has figured conspicuously both as defender and apostle of sacred human rights and ideals. He, therefore, very adroitly utilizes his life's experience as an axis from which he surveys the whole panorama of American civilization with its vice and virtue, its prejudice and philanthropy, its consistency and grace; and, above all with its contradictory and conflicting interpretations of race, Christianity, and Democracy. He says:

"I seem to see a way of elucidating the inner meaning and significance of that race problem by explaining it in terms of the one human life that I know best. I have written then what is meat to be not so much my autobiography as the autobiography of a concept of race . . ."

His long, historic controversy with Booker T. Washington on the issue of Negro education which divided the American public into two belligerent camps, is given full and complete airing as to origin and motive. Dr. DuBois patiently explains that there was neither personal bitterness nor malice in his opposition to Mr. Washington's educational concept. If they were at variance it was because both had nurtured different ideals by which the Negro mass was to hoist itself out of poverty and ignorance. As the author says, the two points of view of Negro progress were not absolutely contradictory. "I recognized," he argues, "the importance of the Negro gaining a foothold in trades and his encouragement in industry and common labor. Mr. Washington was not absolutely opposed to college training, and sent his own children to college. But he did minimize its importance, and discouraged the philanthropic support of higher education; while I openly and repeatedly criticized what seemed to me the poor work and small accomplishment of the Negro industrial school."

His description of the circumstances and objectives of the "Niagara Movement" forms one of the thrilling and inspiring chapters of a remarkable book.

He flays industrial imperialism in America for subjecting the black man to caste control and wage slavery; he shows how the white world, by virtue of organization, superior training and political power exercises overt dominion on black Africa and yellow Asia. In all this, however, he spares no criticism of, the Negro himself, for the all-too-apparent lack of unity, discipline and culture. Dr. DuBois emphasizes and explains his advocacy of a separate

Negro economy in America as the ultimate practical and sensible solution to the many vexing problems which today as of yore challenge Negro thought and being.

Here, he sets forth in plain, understandable language a cultural, economic pattern for the Negro to follow if he envisages a future not darkened by mass ignorance, poverty, and mendicancy.

The democracy, he says, which the white world seeks to defend does not exist. "It has been splendidly conceived and discussed, but not realized. If it ever is to grow strong enough for self-defense and for embracing the world and developing human culture to its highest, it must include not simply the lower classes among the whites now excluded from voice in the control of industry; but in addition to that it must include the colored peoples of Asia and Africa, now hopelessly imprisoned by poverty and ignorance. Unless these latter are included and insofar as they are not, democracy is a mockery and contains within itself the seeds of its own destruction."

In sum, no phase of our western civilization has escaped the critical examination and judgment of the author. In a style that is rich and clear, with sentences and phrasing that ring in the ear like the haunting undulations of a Mozart symphony, Dr. DuBois has said in DUSK OF DAWN what few men of any race or clime would have the gift to state in so captivating a style, and what none would have the courage to express.

DUSK OF DAWN is by far his greatest contribution to American letters and one which will heighten the administration and love of his black followers as well as the respect and reverence of the white world.

Life Story of Langston Huges Off Press Soon; Tells of His Adventures

Call 8-2-40 Langston Hughes

NEW YORK.—For 14 years, since the publication of "The Weary Blues," in 1926, Langston Hughes has been widely recognized as one of the most important young writers in America, white or Negro. For much of that time he has made his living exclusively by his pen—probably the only Negro author to do so before the great success of Richard Wright.

Now Mr. Hughes has written his own story—a story as full of color, incident, vitality, and good humor as the man who wrote it and the life it describes. Called "The Big Sea," it will be published by Alfred A. Knopf on August 26.

Goes to Africa

Since he is an American, Mr. Hughes grew up thinking of himself as a Negro. But he went to Africa on a freighter when he was 21, and the people there told him he was not a Negro at all, but white. He has some Cherokee blood, and some French, and some English-American, and it shows in his appearance. When he lived in Paris a short time later, the people didn't care about those things; he was, and is, a delightful human being, and that was enough for them.

Mr. Hughes was born in 1902 in Joplin, Mo., but he spent his growing years principally in Kansas, in Illinois and in Cleveland, Ohio. His parents were separated—his father had gone to Mexico and engaged in various business enterprises, while his mother remained in the States, worked for a living, and subsequently married a second time.

Goes to Church

He stayed as a boy with his grandmother in Lawrence, and went to school like other boys, and at 12 years old went to church and was "saved"—a proceeding he never understood at all, but he knew he had to get up and say he was saved or else keep the congregation in church permanently, so he got and said it.

When he was graduated from grammar school in Lincoln, Ill., he was elected class poet, for no reason that he could discover, as he had never thought of writing before. But, being a poet, he had to write a poem. He wrote it, and read it at graduation, and everyone applauded. Thus he became a poet.

Becomes a Poet

Then at high school in Cleveland, he really discovered his poetic gift, contributed many pieces to the school publication, and began to collect rejection slips from national magazines. And in the summer he went to Mexico to visit his father, a driving sort of man who was interested only in making money, and who had made it. It was not a pleasant summer; he was glad to go back to Cleveland, to school and to writing.

And right there is the pattern of the life Mr. Hughes was to follow in the years ahead—travel, and writing. He has traveled in Africa and Asia, as well as Europe and America. He has been a sailor, a waiter, a chef, a teacher, a college student, a farm hand, a watchman, an editor, and at least a minor lion in the literary renaissance of the '20's.

Varied Life

He has studied at Columbia and Lincoln university, starved on the Genoa waterfront, mixed on intimate terms in the Negro society of Washington and the literary society of New York. He has met Jim Crow in the South and Mr James Crow in the North, and no Crow at all in Mexico and Europe.

And he wrote. At first his pieces had no publisher; later they began to appear in "The Crisis," and he became as a poet among his people. Then Vachel Lindsay saw some of his work, liked it, and said so It happened this way.

It was in 1925. Mr Hughes was back from Europe, and was working as a bus boy at the Wardman Park hotel in Washington. Mr. Lindsay came to the hotel on a lecture tour, and at dinner-time Mr. Hughes quietly laid copies of a few of his poems beside the older writer's plate. That evening, at his lecture. Lindsay told his audience how he had read the work of tha hotel bus-boy, that it was good that they had a man of remarkable talent right there in Washington and hadn't discovered him

Publicity Break

That was a publicity break indeed. Reporters came to interview Mr. Hughes; his story and his picture were printed in newspapers everywhere. He won "Opportunity's" poetry prize, and began to meet important people in the world of literature—James Weldon Johnson and Zora Hurston, Witter Bynner and John Farrer, Alain Locke and Carl Van Vechten. It was Mr. Van Vechten who persuaded him to submit his first collection of poems to a book publisher, Alfred A. Knopf. The book was called "The Weary Blues," and Mr Knopf published it early in 1926. It went through a number of editions and definitely established its author as one of America's important young poets before he was 24 years old. The doors of literary New York and smart Harlem were open to him; the golden twenties, with their excitement and variety and easy money, were beckoning.

Many a young man under those circumstances would have rested on his laurels, had fun for a few glamorous years, and then dropped out of sight.

Goes to College

Not Langston Hughes. He went back to college — to Lincoln university, with a scholarship, where he worked and studied and wrote, where he instigated certain reforms in the make-up of the faculty, and where he took his bachelor's degree in 1929. During this period he contributed pieces to many magazines, and published two other books — "Fine Clothes to the Jew," a second collection of poems, and "Not Without Laughter," a novel.

There were week-ends in Harlem too, and summers spent here, there, and everywhere. All the great names of the literary twenties stud these pages—Van Vechten and Bynner, Somerset Maugham, Fanny Hurst, Hugh Walpole, William Seabrook, Isa Glenn, Rouben Mamoulian, Horace Liveright, Miguel Covarrubias, and dozens of other leaders in art, music, letters, every field of human activity. It was all wonderful, and Mr. Hughes writes of it with the zest he must have felt for that life while it lasted.

Then one day he awoke to realize that the twenties were over, and his own twenties were practically over too. He had a gold medal, $400 in cash, no more scholarship, and no job. But he could write. And he did.

"Literature," he says, "is a big sea full of many fish. I let down my nets and pulled"

"The Big Sea" is the story of the man who did that pulling, and it shows not only what manner of man he is but why he has been pulling successfully ever since.

Southern Writers Are Presented In This Collection

CONTEMPORARY SOUTHERN PROSE, edited by Richmond Croom Beatty and William Perry Fidler. Published by D. C. Heath & Co.; 614 pages, $2.50.

WE PEOPLE OF THE SOUTH should be tremendously proud of this book. As a matter of fact, the whole country has a right to brag a little about it. After all, it is very much American, even if it is Southern first.

The chances are that you didn't know that the South, that America as a whole, was producing such prose as Richmond Croom Beatty, professor of English at Vanderbilt, and William Perry Fidler, professor of English at the University of Alabama, have found and put in this volume. But once you read the book the chances are you will say that America, particularly in the South, has about reached its maturity in writing because men have to be fully grown before they can write such prose as fills this book.

The editors of the volume say they feel the compilers of most anthologies have given the contemporary writers of the South only negligible attention; they offer their collection as a corrective. But somehow one doesn't feel that the anthology is merely to supply a lack; one feels that the merit of the writing, the fineness of the ideas, demanded publication. Mr. Beatty and Mr. Fidler deserve our greatest thanks for assembling the pieces and putting them together in a single cover.

We in Alabama should be particularly proud of our representation in this book. Clarence Cason is there. Floyd Tillery. And Howell Vines. That is a good showing in a collection of sectional writers that have been so carefully chosen by two men widely read in Southern literature and thoroughly competent to judge.

There is something strong and heartening about this volume. Surely no section can produce such thinking, such writing, and be half so decadent as other sections pretend to believe of the South. Surely these men and women whose writings are included in the volume can lead us from the swamp of ignorance and intolerance; we can trust them. And since they are our leaders, no man of the South can ignore their thinking or fail to examine it as it is represented in "Contemporary Southern Prose."—J. S. C.

Research Bureau Of The Welfare Council Releases Findings On Study Of New York Youths

AUG 31 1940

That a certain portion of the youth of New York City who have come to maturity during the depression is in danger of becoming unemployable is revealed in a study entitled "The Youth of New York City," issued by the Research Bureau of the Welfare Council of New York City and published Tuesday. This group, the youth study points out, consists of those who, having been "unable to get experience without work and unable to get work without experience, are now passed over by employers demanding 'recent college graduates' or 'recent high school graduates.'"

The survey, characterized by the Hon. Stanley M. Isaacs, Borough President of Manhattan, as one which "must rank with the great social studies of our time," is described by the Welfare Council as "perhaps the first authoritative and factual answer to the broad question, 'What has been happening to New York City's youth under the depression?'" It is based upon interviews with approximately 10,000 or 1 percent of the total population of the city between the ages of 16 and 25, made by WPA investigators assigned to the Council's Research Bureau. The authors are Nettie Pauline McGill and Ellen Nathalie Matthews, of the Bureau's staff.

Although the original interviews were made in 1935, the Research Bureau states that nothing has occurred that would indicate that its findings do not apply generally to the entire period 1935-1940. The 1 per cent interviewed, the Bureau adds, constituted a representative sample large enough to permit the drawing of valid conclusions for the entire age group, and the answers to the many questions asked were in the overwhelming majority of cases, full and honest. The study was planned and largely executed under Dr. Neva R. Deardorff, former director of the Research Bureau, and completed under Dr. Helen R. Jeter, present director. It was financed by grants from the General Education Board, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Friedsam Foundation.

Commenting on the significance of the study, Mr. Isaacs, who is a member of the Welfare Council's Executive Committee, said: "It will serve as an energizer to those of us who don't want to see the lost generation of potential unemployables suddenly finding themselves —and us—under the banner of a man on horseback."

Youth And Employment

Almost half the youth of New York City who are looking for wo are unable to find it, the youth study reveals. "The prevailing unemployment of this decade", it continues, "though bearing heavily upon the workers of all ages has borne most heavily upon youth Young workers have not been getting their proportionate share even of such jobs as have been available Moreover, unable to get experience without work, and unable to get work without experience, youth has a unique class of potential unemployables....Not only do these leftovers have to compete with younger groups as the years pass, but with every year they become less employable." Quoting the opinion of employment workers in close touch with junior placement problems, the study continues:

"They are often applicants upon whom the grip of discouragement and inertia has fallen heaviest and whose morale has sunk accordingly until, in the face of present demands of employers, many of them without the stimulus to further training or to the reviving of lost skills, are becoming well-nigh unemployable."

The study, which is published by The Macmillan Company, reports on many aspects of the life and habits of New York youth, including education and training for employment, race, religion, marital status, recreation and use of leisure, intellectual interests, and emotional attitude toward its problems.

Statistics

Some of the findings of the youth study, as of the period covered are:

Of the approximately one million youth in New York City between the ages of 15 and 25, 96 per cent are white; 93 per cent are native-born but of these 71 per cent have one or both parents who were foreign-born; 490,000 are Roman Catholics; 310,000 Jews; 180,000 Protestants; slightly more than one-third are children of white-collar workers; 15 per cent live in households that are receiving relief; 8 per cent are married and have their own home; although almost all children of sixteen now enter high school, less than half of them stay to complete their courses; 200,000 are attending local schools or colleges, 420,000 are neither in school nor employed, more than 330,000 are looking for a job, 120,000 of them have never had any job, and 360,000 are at work earning median wages, varying, according to type of job, from $13.37 to $19.58 per week. Well over half of all the gainful workers interviewed who had found any work had been placed in their most recent positions through friends or relatives.

AUG 31 1940

Schooling

Relatively few young persons who had had vocational education appear to have had employment in which their specific training is likely to have been used, nor does vocational training appear to have made any difference in getting or keeping work; "in the immediate future, even with much improved economic conditions, it is expected that youth in its teens or a little older will be but little in demand in business and industry"; hence "in a period when nothing is to be gained by leaving school, large numbers apparently believe that nothing is to be gained by remaining."

AUG 1 1940

"With more schooling than its fathers, the New York youth of the 1930's has been less able than any previous generation to make use of the education it has received. Thousands of young men and women during the past decade, equipped with the best the schools could give, have had the experience of finding their equipment unmarketable, or of being forced to take for it far less than the value they had been taught to set upon it. It would not be surprising if under these circumstances youth should seriously question the worth of education and refuse to have more of it.

"The feeling the youth had that his occupation was unworthy of his training and abilities often caused much chafing, rebellion and bitterness. The statistical evidence seems to corroborate the impression that, if employed at all, youth are employed at jobs below the level of their training and talents.

"The prevailing attitude (among the youth interviewed) was one of complete uncertainty as to the future, characterized usually by a stoical acceptance of the present. Many thousands, judging by what young men and women themselves said, believed that their plans or their prospects had been wrecked, rather than merely postponed."

Delayed Marriage

"Thirty-two per cent of the young men of 21 or over and 21 per cent of the young women who were at least 18 years old answered in the afirmative when they were asked if the depression had interferred with their marrying... Delay in marrying very soon brings girls to an age when the men whom they would have married pass them by to marry younger women. The young woman who thus loses out make both a personal readjustment and in many cases a vocational one; she must get along without marriage, and make a living too. The effect on mental well-being, on competition for jobs, even on education and training, is far-reaching."

AUG 31 1940

Recreation And Reading

"In spite of all that New York City has to offer—its incomparable cultural advantages, its expanding and improving public recreation program—its young people, especially after they leave school, spend their leisure largely in the narrow routine of reading newspapers and magazines, radio listening, and going to the movies. Few have any opportunity to engage in sports; few have any other fun or diversion than the movies; almost none have any hobbies or recreational skills with which to fill the unoccupied hours.

"Hardly one in three of the youth population spend any part of the leisure of a typical week reading a book of any kind. Even the unemployed do not turn to books to fill the long hours of idleness.... The youth study found that only 32 per cent of the unemployed youth had done any book reading."

Of men and boys interviewed, about 60 per cent of the Roman Catholics had attended church the previous week, 10 per cent of the Jewish, and 37 per cent of the Protestants. The proportion of women, under each heading, was somewhat higher.

Mr. Isaacs, commenting on the above findings, stated:

"A Terrifying Book"

"The Youth of New York City, is, without exaggeration, a terrifying book. Simple and unadorned, the straightforward facts about the million youngsters between 16 and 25 gathered by Nettie Pauline McGill and Ellen Nathalie Matthews under the auspices of the Welfare Council must rank with the great social studies of our time.

"Unpretentious in tone, this record covering unemployment, leisure, recreation, education and deferred marriages, the moves of the young people of our metropolis, is all too convincing in its grimness. The facts are blunt and far from pretty. Fifteen per cent of the youngsters in 1935 were living in households that were receiving relief, the allowance then being between $14 and $15 for a family of five. That same year, according to the study, only one-half of the youngsters seeking work could find it. Median earnings for employed youth ranged from $13.37 to $19.58.

"The authors conclude that we are developing among the youth a group more unfortunate than the unemployed—a class of potential unemployables. Demoralization results. Hardly one in three youngsters covered by the study read a book.

"The rest of the study, unfortunately, only heightens the picture. Yorker should. It will serve as an energizer to those of us who don't want to see the lost generation suddenly finding themselves—and us—under the banner of a man on horseback. For it is from just

"I don't know how many of the youngsters will read it. But I know that every thoughtful adult New

Closeup of Youth Shown In "Children of Bondage"

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

SEP 21 1940

By HAZEL L. GRIGGS

It's a fight for existence from his birth to his death for the underprivileged youth of "Children of Bondage." A veritable life of violence, and similar struggles, varying in intensity and type, surround southern Negro youth of all classes shown in this interesting study of personality development which has been traced by a pair of human historians, Allison Davis and John Dollard.

The Deep South is the background of the study with Natchez and New Orleans as focal points. The cases presented and developed for the reader are moving and substantially enlightening. Reasons for many actions of youth, which heretofore may have been hazy to the lay person, are effectively analyzed in a systematic series of personality portrayals excellently done.

SEP 21 1940

Children of Bondage," will undoubtedly leave the reader with a deep insight into the reactions of youth, especially southern Negro youth, who are surrounded, perhaps more than any other group, with with difficult life situations. The southern background is complete, and the boys and girls, portrayed, some eight of them, are carried through the various stages from infancy to adolescence to show the effect of various outer forces and their impressions on the personality and mentality of the subject.

Journal Guide

Plainly the authors show how normal reactions of growing boys and girls are molded and distorted by economic conditions, caste restrictions, and clique standards. Caste, among Negroes, has been found to be lower class, middle class, and upper class, with several stratifications in each group.

The class is determined by economic conditions, caste restrictions, clique standards, and educational attainments, and often greatly affected by skin color. Mobility from one strata to another is difficult, the authors report, but possible and frequently achieved by ambitious Negro youth.

Norfolk Va.

PRESENTATION STRICTLY IMPERSONAL

"Children of Bondage" is not only interesting for the case narratives and findings it presents, but also for an exciting group of stories and a revealing survey of southern prejudice and its bearing on the personality of Negro youth.

The reader finds himself reacting with the "self made" young man who has a shot gun poked into his back by a white man because he yelled "Louis K.O.'s Braddock," in selling his extra papers after the championship battle, and of the other young paper vender who was hit across the mouth with an iron pipe by a group of white boys, and never talked again. The presentation of material, however, is strictly impersonal, and gives the impression of absolute fairness.

The Self-Made Man," a youth of the more interesting characters of the book. He makes this observation on southern oppression of the Negro: "When Negroes buy some guns and start shooting up some of the mobs and fight for their rights, white people will be glad to pass an anti-lynch bill to protect themselves."

Eight adolescents were chosen from over 200 young people interviewed for this statistical survey. A study of profound social and scientific importance, the book should be ready by every Negro.

Dr. J. M. Ellison Author of Hamitic Edition of Bible

SEP 21 1940

(Special to Journal and Guide)

RICHMOND, Va. — Publication of an Hamitic Edition of the Bible of which Dr. J. M. Ellison, professor of sociology and philosophy at Virginia Union University here is the author, was announced recently by A. J. Holman Company, of Philadelphia, publishers.

SEP 21 1940

The volume, "The Story of the Hamitic Peoples of the Old and New Testaments," is the first work of its kind ever published and is expected to have wide use in theological schools throughout the country.

Journal Guide

"The idea behind the work is to impart to Negro youth the full truth of the place of the Negro in Biblical history, according to Dr. Ellison. "It shows that some of the greatest Biblical personalities were direct descendents of Ham who is generally regarded as the father of the Negro race, and some of the most astounding scientific feats were products of their fertile brains."

Norfolk Va.

PREFACE BY DR. MOTON

In a preface written by the late Dr. R. R. Moton, president-emeritus of Tuskegee Institute, it is explained that "the term Hamitic is employed in its Biblical sense, that is, to designate a geographic as well as a racial grouping. Its employment can present no ground employment can present no grounds for religious, ethnological or linguistic controversy because Africa was known as **THE LAND OF HAM** by the early scribes."

"The loyalties, the love, the religion, the deep-seated fervor, the ability to endure, are all characteristic and all of these gifts of the Sons of Ham go back through their history and come back again from the ages into the present time," Dr. Moton writes. "It is a heritage of ancient lore and constancy of which to be proud.

"Consequently, any study which aims to make clear Africa's part in the Genesis of the Hebrew religion is more than welcome. First, because it will give a true and balanced picture of the history of our religious heritage; second, because it will make clear to darker peoples, who are all too often uninformed, or misinformed, the part which their forebears have played in the grand achievements of mankind. Any effort that emphasizes the Hamitic influence on civilization as it comes to us thru the Bible is a distinct contribution to the history of manknd.

"While I do not believe there has been any conscious effort to neglect the African influence on the Bible, I am of the opinion that it has not been sufficiently emphasized by Biblical historians."

The volume is adequately illustrated by Elmo Jones, well known Richmond artist.

THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA. Virginia Writers' Project. Hastings House. $2.50. Nation

9-21-40

This history of the Negro since 1619 in the state to which he was first brought is the first state history of the Negro to be published. Representing the joint efforts of Negro and white workers on the Writers' Project of Virginia, it succeeds in revealing the Negroes of the Old Dominion as they see themselves and as liberal and not so romantic white opinion sees them. The book suffers somewhat from a too ready acceptance of personal reminiscences, which necessarily tend to emphasize the exceptional.

Phila. Inquirer

Book On Atlanta Negro Off Press

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

SEP 28 1940

"The Atlanta Negro", a collection of important statistical data on the Negro population of this city, has recently come off the press. It has been prepared by Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, chairman of the department of mathematics at Atlanta University, with the assistance of Marion M. Hamilton of Atlanta University. The study was sponsored by the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education, in cooperation with the National Youth Administration of Georgia.

According to the sponsors, this publication makes available for the first time a comprehensive amount of statistical data which should be of inestimable value to research workers who are interested in problems in population or in community organization in Atlanta, Georgia, or in a similar city. The volume, containing 136 pages, provides a wealth of material for further analysis, and should be useful as a reference work in libraries and research centers.

Dr. Pierce started to work on the project in February, 1939. He is an alumnus of Atlanta University and the University of Michigan, and a former professor of mathematics at Wiley College. Another work by the author is Introductory College Mathematics, a freshman college textbook.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

Problems Beset Efforts of Richard Wright, Paul Green to Turn 'Native Son' into Play

RICHARD WRITE

CHAPEL HILL, N. C. — Plenty of problems are arising out of the attempts of Richard Wright and Paul Green to transform Wright's sensational best seller, "Native Son," into a play.

However, the writers hope to surmount all these in time for Orson Welles and John Housman to produce the play in New York next season.

The pair are working in a rough cabin two miles from here, near Green's home. The two have completed the first rough draft of the drama but still haven't determined how to end it.

In the novel, Bigger Thomas, awaiting execution for the murder of a young white woman, realizes, if hazily and dimly, the true purport of his act. He sees also the full scope of the forces which have driven him to commit the crime. It is a powerful psychological passage, but not easily adapted to the stage. It may be presented in a monologue.

To Use Music

Wright and Green are considering the use of music to heighten the dramatic effect. However, Green said only one scene could be easily given a musical background and the need for music was mostly technical, to fill the actionless blanks between scenes.

"When you have a great number of scenes, as 'Native Son' is likely to have," Green said, "you need something like music to carry the audience from one scene to another."

Wright came to Chapel Hill for the collaboration at Green's suggestion. The young writer brings to the dramatization the knowledge of one who has been at first hand the operation of forces which lead to such brutal crimes as he describes in his novel.

Green contributes the dramatic artistry of a trained playwright, the artistry which in 1927 won him the Pulitzer Prize for "In Abraham's Bosom," a play of Negro life.

WRIGHT, GREEN ARE DRAMATIZING BOOK

8-10-40 Courier Pittsburgh PA

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Aug. 8—After constant persistent rumors which have filtered into the public's ears ever since "Native Son" became a best seller, that it would be made into a movie or play, the first definite move along that line has been made. Orson Welles, who is perhaps best remembered for his radio broadcast which frightened the entire country with its reality, has bought the dramatic rights to the book with the intention of producing it on the stage here on the West Coast, after which he plans to take it to New York.

Both Richard Wright, who is the original author, and Paul Green, a Pulitzer prize playwright, are dramatizing the book for Welles, and it is expected that a spectacular show will result. Colored playdom can look back to the days when the Federal Theatre was in its heyday, and Welles, then a struggling producer, got his first hit by changing the locale of "Macbeth" from the rocky shores of Wales to the sunkissed shores of Haiti, and turned out one of the sensations of the season. Neither a definite cast nor an opening date has been announced as yet for this new adaptation of "Native Son."

'NATIVE SON' AUTHOR ADMITS HE'S MEMBER OF COMMUNIST PARTY

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh Pa

SEP 14 1940

NEW YORK, Sept. 12—Speaking before an audience of 5,000 persons at a recent benefit held at the Golden Gate Ballroom, sponsored by the Negro Playwrights Company, Inc., Richard Wright, author of "Native Son," made a public admission of his membership in the Communist party.

Since the best selling novel appeared on the stands, rumors have been rampant that Wright's book was written by a member of the Communist party. His statement came as a surprise to few members of the large audience, most of whom were white.

Paul Robeson, who lived for several years in Soviet Russia, also appeared on the benefit program.

BOOK REVIEW

Children of Bondage. By Allison Davis and John Dollard. American Council on Education. $2.25.
(Reviewed by Hazel L. Griggs.)

SEP 13 1940

IT'S a fight for existence from his birth to his death for the underprivileged youth of "Children of Bondage," a veritable life of violence, and similar struggles, varying in intensity and type, surround southern Negro youth of all classes shown in this interesting study of personality development which has been traced by a pair of human historians, Allison Davis and John Dollard.

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Eight adolescents were chosen from over 200 young people interviewed for this statistical survey. A study of profound social and scientific importance, the book should be read by every Negro American.

Closeup Study Made Of Youth

CHILDREN OF BONDAGE—By Allison Davis and John Dollard—(American Council on Education, $2.25)

SEP 14 1940

Reviewed by HAZEL L. GRIGGS for ANP

It's a fight for existence from his broth to his death for the underprivileged youth of "Children of Bondage," a veritable life of violence, and similar struggles, varying in intensity and type, surround southern Negro youth of all classes shown in this interesting study of personality development which has been traced by a pair of human historians, Allison Davis and John Dollard.

The Deep South is the background of the study with Natchez and New Orleans as focal points. The cases presented and developed for the reader are moving and substantially enlightening. Reasons for many actions of youth, which heretofore may have been hazy to the lay person, are effectively analyzed in a systematic series of personality portrayals excellently done.

"Children of Bondage," will undoubtedly leave the reader with a deeper insight into the reactions of youth, especially southern Negro youth, who are surrounded, perhaps more than any other group, with difficult life situations. The southern background is complete, and the boys and girls portrayed, some eight of them, are carried through the various stages from infancy to adolescence to show the effect of various outer forces and their impressions on the personality and mentality of the subject.

Plainly the authors show how normal reactions of growing boys and girls are molded and distorted by economic conditions, caste restrictions, and clique standards. Caste, among Negroes, has been found to be lower class, middle class, and uppor class, with several stratifications on each group. The class is determined by economic conditions, caste restrictions, clique standards, and educational attainments, and often greatly affected by skin color. Mobility from one strata to another is difficult, the authors report, but possible and frequently achieved by ambitious Negro youth.

"Children of Bondage" is not only interesting for the case narratives and findings it presents, but also for an exciting group of stories and a revealing survey of southern prejudice and its bearing on the personality of Negro youth. The reader finds himself reacting with the "self made" young man who has a shotgun poked into his back by a white man because he yelled "Louis K. O.'s Braddock," in selling his extra papers after the championship battle and of the other young paper vender who was hit across the month with an iron pipe by a group of white boys, and never talked again. The presentation of material, however, is strictly impersonal, and gives the impression of absolute fairness.

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A NEW LIFE OF LIVINGSTONE

"Livingstone the Liberator." By James I. MacNair. (Collins. 2s. 6d.)

OCT 10 1940

David Livingstone sailed from London for Africa for his great life's work on December 8, 1840, and in Scotland and elsewhere the centenary will be observed with a fresh appreciation of the labours, sacrifices and achievements of this Christian explorer and pioneer.

The occasion will undoubtedly lead to a return to the three books left by Livingstone himself and to a re-reading of the earlier "Lives," together with the new edition of his "Letters." The book for the multitude will without doubt be that written by the Rev. James I. MacNair, and published by Messrs. Collins in their handy series of pocket classics.

This new volume has an intimate connection with the Livingstone Memorial at Blantyre, of which the writer is the curator. Its form follows the plan of the Blantyre Memorial. Most of the illustrations are photographs of the statuary in that building, and these, with family scenes, give at once value and uniqueness to this new study of Africa's great leader.

His Home Life

The story of Livingstone, as told once more, has all the essential features related with surprising freshness and handled by an expert who can appraise through his experience at the Memorial the present influence of this Scottish youth who has written his name in ineffaceable characters in the world's history.

This new "Life" has the merits of making public much hitherto unknown of Livingstone's boyhood and early youth and also of dealing tenderly and attractively with phases of his home life. Stories of Livingstone still float around Blantyre and these the author has sifted and presented with discrimination. He has brought out Livingstone the father more fully than he has before been known.

If Mr. MacNair has produced in his unusually readable volume a people's life of Livingstone, still more has he succeeded in describing for children one of their great heroes. The book should certainly be widely used for the literary side of the training of youth of 14-18 now being undertaken by the Board of Education. It is a book for Sunday-school teachers, and already it has been used by day school teachers for the skilful way it presents knowledge of Africa.

The book will prove an excellent guide to the Livingstone Memorial, opened eleven years ago by Her Majesty the Queen (then Duchess of York), which has had in this period more than half a million visitors.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

A Negro Moses

By John T. Appleby

DR. DU BOIS personifies better than any other member of his race the struggle of the American Negro for his constitutional rights and for freedom from the oppressive bonds of prejudice which hold him still, after 75 years of emancipation, in a semiservice state. It is fitting then that he should give his autobiography the subtitle "An Essay Toward an Autobiography of a Race Concept."

SEP 22 1940

W. E. B. Du Bois was born in Great Barrington, Mass., in 1868, of Dutch, French and African ancestry. He grew up in that small town, where there was little racial prejudice, at least not of the brutal sort that is manifested further South, and received his elementary and high school education in the public schools there. His intellectual gifts were obvious, and it was plain to everyone that he should have a college education, in spite of his family's poverty.

He received a scholarship from Fisk University, and in the three years which he spent in the South he came to realize just what it means to be born in this country with a dark skin. Further scholarships enabled him to get his doctor's degree at Harvard and to study for an additional two years at the University of Berlin.

Thus equipped, Dr. Du Bois returned to this country and began than career of teaching, of scientific study of almost every angle of the Negro problem, and of ceaseless and energetic working for the advancement of his race, which have made him one of the foremost leaders of the American Negro.

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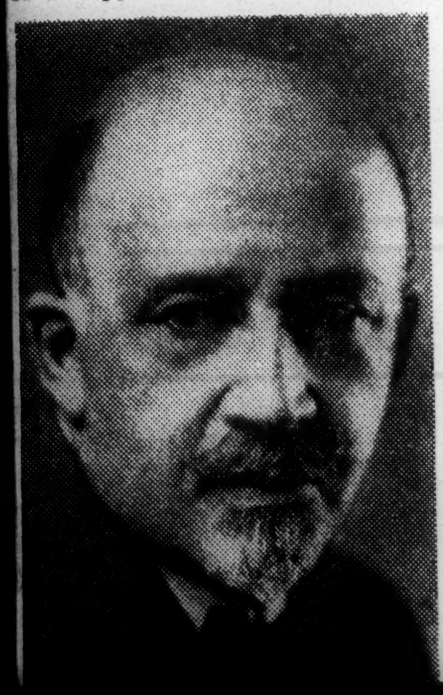

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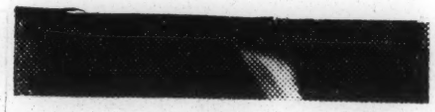

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Savannah Journal

"The Negro laid claim to American citizenship by early demonstrating those deeds of heroism, loyalty, and intrepidity, his willingness to defend the country of his adoption in its wars," the book states.

Savannah, Ga.

"Black soldiers were sent from every colony to bolster the hard pressed American forces. In all, it is estimated that at least 3,000 Negroes saw service in the Colonial Armies, each regiment carrying an average of about thirty-five. General Washington's personal command is said to have had over seven hundred colored soldiers on August 24, 1778. The resistance put up by Negro troops covered the retreat of the American and Fench forces from Savannah on October 9, 1779."

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Syracuse Herald-Journal

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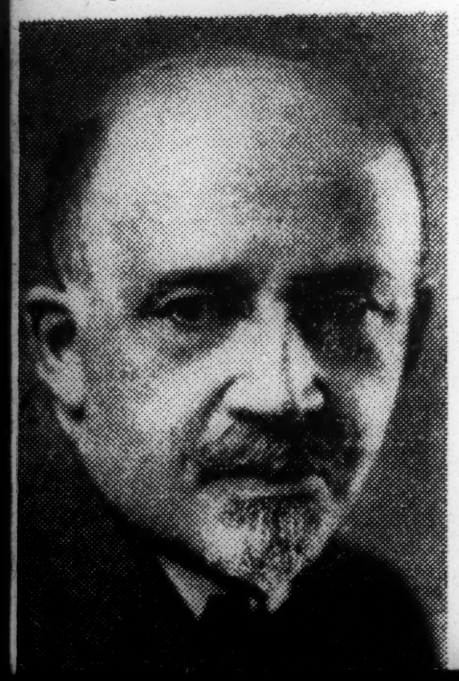

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BOOK REVIEW

"THE BIG SEA"

Langston Hughes' autobiography "The Big Sea" published by Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., is a record of the twenty-three years of his childhood and growing-up time. The book ends abruptly in 1931, leaving out his last nine years of living—we wondered whether he did not consider these years important or whether the autobiography had been written years ago and just published.

This is a story of the happenings in the life of a Negro writer who has been seaman, waiter, doorman, cooks helper, truck garden worker, laundry sorter and bus boy. It tells of his childhood divided between Mexico and America, between a father made grasping and money-minded by discrimination in America and so went to Mexico and became economically secure, and a mother, an educated woman, who went from city to city to get better work but did not always have enough to eat.

His father wanted him to go abroad and learn to be a mining engineer so that he could return to Mexico and help manage the mines for him. Instead, after having earned the necessary funds by teaching English in private schools he left his father to enter Columbia University. The coldness and unfriendliness toward Negroes both in the classroom and the dormitories finally influenced him to leave Columbia and find work in Harlem where he lived for a time.

The next few years were spent here, there and everywhere wandering from place to place working at times and at other times unable to find it. He was in Paris working in a night club, shipped to Africa stopping at many ports on the way, went to Switzerland on a vacation, and was stranded in Italy. During this time of roaming and the various stages of work Langston Hughes wrote the most and best of his poetry, for it seems that when he had the hardest luck and was least happy he could do his best work.

After returning to the United States and finding work he was finally discovered by the then Negro literati. As an addition to their group he was introduced to many persons interested in the contemporary Negro artist. Through their discovery he received a scholarship to Lincoln University from which college he was graduated.

Though "The Big Sea" is interesting and easy reading the ideas seem to be disjointed and to lack continuity. It is written in a simple style telling of the ordinary life of a rather extraordinary Negro. As Negroes read it they will wonder possibly for what reason the book was published. But we offer it to you for what you consider it is worth —G.H.

Books Published Today

DEADLY NIGHTSHADE, by Elizabeth Daly. (Farrar & Rinehart, $2.) A mystery novel.

ELEVEN VERSE PLAYS, by Maxwell Anderson. (Harcourt, Brace, $3.75.) Nine full-length modern and historical plays and two short ones, all written in the last decade.

FREEDOM—ITS MEANING, edited by Ruth N. Anshen. (Harcourt, Brace, $4.) Forty-one contributors representing different fields define freedom.

HEAVEN'S DOORYARD, by Marguerite McEntire. (Farrar & Rinehart, $2.50.) A novel of Maine life.

HOLD BACK THE DAWN, by Kettin Fring. (Duell, Sloan & Pearce, $2.50.) A novel about a group of men and women brought together by events abroad at the Mexican border, where they await entry to the United States.

HUGH YOUNG: A SURGEON'S AUTOBIOGRPHY. (Harcourt, Brace, $5.)

LETTERS FROM THE CORSICAN. (Vanguard, $2.) A series of communications from "Napoleon" to Hitler.

NORTHERN WINTER, by Gostaaf Geijerstam. (Dutton, $2.50.) Of Norway's mountain life.

POEMS AND PORTRAITS, by Christopher La Farge. (Coward-McCann, $1.25.) Verses.

SCIENCE PICTURE PARADE, by Watson Davis. (Duell, Sloan & Pearce, $3.) A picture story of modern science.

STEPS OF THE SUN, by Emily Hahn. (Dial, $2.50.) A novel of family life in China.

BOOK REVIEW

SEP 21 1940

NEGRO MASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES" by Harold V B. Voorhis, P.M. New York: Harry Emerson $2.50.

Negro Masonry in the United States—is a history of Negro Freemasonry in the United States. The book is divided into two parts: States is a history of Negro Freemasonry which is not recognized

A UNICORN IN THE BAHAMAS, by Rosita Forbes. Published by E. P. Dutton & Co.; 244 pages, $3.

THOSE WHO KNOW ANYTHING AT ALL about writers of travel books know that Rosita Forbes is one of the best of all guides to strange parts of the world. She has traveled over most of the earth, and she has a knack for finding interesting places and forever stumbling into exciting adventures. Then, she has the greatest gift of all, the power to describe so vividly that the reader at home feels that he too is in far-off lands enjoying the most thrilling experiences.

Fortunately, Rosita Forbes on her most recent journey does not go to some little known part of the world. She is content to stay near the United States, and write of the Bahama and Nassau. One learns of the past of these islands, of the exciting times when the Spanish explorer caught the Indians, and when the pirates conquered the islands and used them as hideouts. One learns of the times when the bootlegger found it was profitable to traffic from these islands, and one hears something of them now that they are resorts where American tourists like to gather.

But it's far more than merely the past in Rosita Forbes' book. There is the present, and always there is Rosita Forbes herself, telling of her own adventures as she goes about the Bahamas and Nassau. Surely it would be difficult to find a more pleasant and more informative book of travel.

by that Freemasonry in the United States that calls itself "regular." The second part deals with that Negro Freemasonry which is recognized by the White Freemasonry in the United States. Except for the first and last chapters, it is the history of a single lodge.

This book is prepared by an internationally known Masonic student, from little known, rare and unusual material gathered from sources over a period of twenty years. Much of this material has been heretofore unknown.

This complicated subject has been condensed for the easy reading of the Mason. It is accompanied with an appendix and a complete bibliography.

"Maryland," WPA Guide Boo Afro American
Readable and Informative Too

MARYLAND (A Guide to the Old Line State). Compiled by the Writers' Program of the WPA in the State of Maryland. American Guide Series. Sponsored by Herbert R. O'Conor, Governor of Maryland. Published by the Oxford University Press, New York. $2.75.)

BALTIMORE

"Maryland" is certainly more readable than most guide books, and its material is more interestingly written than that of most histories. In addition to these two qualities, the book combines the best features of history and guide. OCT 5 1940

There are also a number of well-chosen and up-to-date pictures.

The book devotes an entire chapter to colored people and is more fair in its statements than many Maryland institutions and customs are in their actions.

The book points out that although there were not so many people of the colored race who were slaves, "free colored persons were not entirely free."

"At times they were restrained by law from working at certain occupations, or from selling tobacco and other commodities without a certificate from a justice of the peace.

"Again, they were prohibited from keeping dogs, carrying firearms, attending religious services (unless conducted by a licensed or ordained white minister), belonging to secret orders, or selling spirituous liquors."

The book lists the achievements of many illustrious persons, including Benjamin Banneker, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, and Josiah Henson (whose life story provided material for Harriet Beecher Stowe to write "Uncle Tom's Cabin)."

The book also tells of conditions of today, pointing out that "discrimination against colored persons in official position exists, both on a numerical basis, and, at least among teachers, in regard to salaries.

Tells About Jim Crow

"A jim-crow law segregating whites and colored on public carriers applies on steamships carrying passengers within the State and on electric cars running twenty miles beyond the limits of a city. Segregation is practiced in both public and private educational institutions, and in most cases the facilities for colored are not as good as those for whites.

"Though attempts to enforce housing segregation by law have been unsuccessful, practical segregation has forced the colored man to pay high rentals in deteriorated districts. Custom decrees that the color line be observed in theatres, restaurants, and to some extent, in stores."

It is also pointed out that Maryland is the home of the AFRO-AMERICAN, of the late Chick Webb, of Father Divine, of Cab Calloway, and of Ella Fitzgerald.

The claim of the State to Miss Fitzgerald is erroneous, however, since she was born in New York State.

The book also tells of Negro Mountain, the highest point on U.S. 40 in Maryland, stating that during the French and Indian War, a force under Colonel Thomas Creasp had a skirmish with a band of Indians on this mountain and one of Creasp's soldiers, a large colored man, was killed and buried there, giving the mountain its name.

The book also has a pocket in the back which contains a map of the State.

This is a volume that every Marylander, native, adopted citizen, and visitor should own. It is more interesting than many novels, and more informative than most.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
September 13, 1940

Blake

DuBois' "Dusk of Dawn" A Record of Race Progress

By FRANK DANIEL

Editor's Note: While Morgan Blake is vacationing, his daily column will be contributed by friends and associates on The Journal. Today Mr. Blake presents Frank Daniel of The Journal's reportorial staff.

TRAGEDY is the discrepancy between man's ideal and his accomplishment. Heritage, ability, and training combined to assist Dr. W. E. Burghardt Du Bois in his career. Few men are able to recall their careers as eloquently as Dr. Du Bois presents his in the newly published autobiography, "Dusk of Dawn." And the man is rare and happy who, at the age of 72, sees the principles by which he has lived confirmed by time, strengthened by his work and example, and honored by his association.

Dr. Du Bois was born three years after the War Between the States in a small, democratic Massachusetts town where his family, of Dutch, French, and Negro ancestry, were among the oldest inhabitants. The community "conceived itself as having helped put down a wicked rebellion for the purpose of freeing four million slaves." The boy's early contacts were pleasant. "Later, in high school, there came some rather puzzling distinctions which I can see now were social and racial; but the racial angle was more clearly defined against the Irish than against me." Discrimination was the more difficult because the student was often a leader and usually excelled.

His First Shock

A Negro born into this environment, and sent out into the world during the last years of the nineteenth century, was to receive inevitable shocks. Dr. Du Bois received his first when he entetred Fisk University at 17. And after three years in the South he went to Harvard "desperately afraid of not being wanted; of intruding without invitation; of appearing to desire the company of those who had no desire for me."

But if the Negro student at Harvard was cut off from his fellows, he could enjoy magnificent opportunities for direct contact with the great men on Harvard's faculty during the nineties. "It was at Harvard that my education, turning from philosophy, centered in history and then gradually in economics and social problems. Today my course would have been called sociology; but in that day Harvard did not recognize any such science."

Already the student had planned his career. He remained at Harvard on fellowships two years after graduation to equip himself further. In 1892 he sailed for two more years of study at the University of Berlin. He returned to America one of the best equipped Negroes of his time. His disposition as well as education equipped him to be a leader. He was austere, courageous, and clear-sighted.

The betterment of the Negro race, he tells us, seemed a matter of education, a matter of knowledge, a matter of scientific procedure. "Later, however, all this frame of concept became blurred and distorted. There was evidently evil and hindrance blocking the way of life. Not science alone could settle this matter." The black world, he believed, must fight for his freedom. But upon this state of mind the World War fell: "The lesson of fighting was unforgettable; it was eternal loss and cost in victory or defeat. And again my problem of human difference, of the color line, of social degradation, of the fight for freedom became transformed. First and natural to the emergence of colder and more mature manhood from hot youth, I saw that the color bar could not be broken by a series of brilliant immediate assaults.

Time and Education

"Secondly, I saw defending this bar not simply ignorance and ill will; these to be sure; but also certain more powerful motives less open to reason or appeal. There were economic motives, urges to build wealth on the back of black slaves and colored serfs; there followed those unconscious acts and irrational reactions, unpierced by reason, whose current form depended on the long history of relation and contact between thought and idea In this case not sudden assault but long siege was indicated; careful planning and subtle campaign with the education of growing generations and propaganda.

"For all this, time was needed to meve the resistance in vast areas of unreason and especially in the minds of men where conscious present motive had been built on false rationalization. Meanwhile the immediate problem of the Negro was the question of securing existence, of labor and income, of food and home, of spiritual independence and democratic control of the industrial process. It would not do to concenter all effort on economic well-being and forget freedom and manhood. Rather, Negroes must live and eat and strive, and still hold unfaltering commerce with the stars."

Thirteen years as teacher—most of the time at Atlanta University—and, from 1910 to 1930, as member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people and as editor of the Crisis, Dr. Du Bois continued to scrutinize every phase of the question which remained always uppermost in his mind. He continued to labor for his conception of justice, refusing always to waiver or to compromise. His life has benefited millions of living Americans, and may help guide a future America and a future world back to peaceful ways and forward to good will.

New Collection Of Spirituals

SEP 22 1940

NEW YORK — "The Books of American Negro Spirituals," a one-volume edition of the two famous works by James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamund Johnson, was issued by Viking Press this week. The new edition contains all the material hitherto included in the two volumes that sold for $3.75 each. It is spiral-bound for the convenience of readers and musicians, and is priced at $2.95.

'Native Son' Author Backs Ford, Browder

Richard Wright Hails Ford's Leadership in Fight for Peace

SEP 30 1940

Richard Wright, author of "Native Son," and one of America's outstanding novelists yesterday declared himself in support of Earl Browder and James W. Ford, Communist candidates for President and Vice-President, it was announced by the National Election Campaign Committee of the Communist Party.

The distinguished Negro writer, in a special article on the elections, warned of the war danger confronting the country. **"We must think clearly, act quickly and unitedly, to ward it off,"** he writes. **"Trouble lies ahead for all of us, but especially for the Negro. . . . As fast as the days run, Congress grinds out reactionary laws to repress and enslave those who question or protest. Today, even more than in the first World War, is the time for fearless, forthright leadership to protect and voice the fundamental interests of the Negro people."**

Text of Richard Wright's statement supporting Browder and Ford will be found on Page 5.

Mr. Wright, addressing himself to the electorate in general and to the Negro voters specifically, referred to the Communist Party as the only political force in the U. S. recognizing and giving leadership to the struggle for equality for his people.

"That Ford should be a candidate for Vice President of the United States is an achievement for the Negro people," Mr. Wright states, "an achievement recognized and supported only by the Communist Party. It demonstrates the importance the Communist Party attaches to the fight for the equality of the Negro people . . . A vote for Browder and Ford will assure this prominence in the struggle for Negro rights. It will compel the warmongers to listen to them when they speak for us. . . . During the stormy days ahead the Negro people must have men of Ford's calibre in the forefront to fight for them. . . . All Negro intellectuals, doctors, lawyers, teachers, writers, artists must realize that a vote for Browder and Ford is a vote in defense of themselves in a war-torn world and a vote in defense of all they hope to gain in American life."

Lafayette Sought To Free American Slaves During Revolutionary Period

The Black dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.
OCT 12 1940

Proposes to Buy Island and Emancipate Those in Bondage

Tells George Washington His Plans

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—A current appreciation of the generous heart and splendid attitude of Marquis Marie-Joseph de Lafayette, the famous French general who volunteered his services in behalf of the independence of the American Colonies, is revealed in the little volume Le-Moire written by Mercer Cook, head of the Department of French at Atlanta University. Mr. Cook's research has revealed correspondence between Lafayette and his good friend General George Washington, first president of these United States.

Lafayette has been credited with the statement: "I never would have drawn my sword in the cause of America if I could have conceived that thereby I was helping to found a nation of slaves."

From "Lafayette's Memoires" fragment is quoted from a letter which he wrote to George Washington from Spain after the revolution.

"AT present my dear general, let me propose something to you, permit me to propose a plan to you which should prove greatly useful to a portion of the black human race. Let us unite ourselves and buy a little property where we can place the free Negroes and employ them only as tillers of the soil. If you would set the example it would be generally done, and if we remit ourselves in America, I shall set aside with pleasure, part of my time to put this idea in form in the Antilles. If it is a bizzare project, I enjoy being foolish in this case better than being judged wise under opposite conditions."

OCT 12 1940

In this connection, Genera Washington replied: "The plan which you propose, my dear Marquis, by encouraging the emancipation of Negroes in this country, and letting them go out in a state of freedom, it is a suggestion which proves the kindness of your heart. I shall be happy to unite with you in so worthy a cause; but I prefer to go into the details of the affair, the Moment that I have the pleasure of seeing you."

History does not reveal what happened to the proposal.

Negro's Autobiography

DUSK OF DAWN—*W. E. B. Du Bois*—*Harcourt, Brace* ($3).

Dusk of Dawn is the autobiography of a Negro whose lifelong attempt has been to ease friction between U. S. whites and blacks. In William E. Burghardt Du Bois's youth the faith of the nation was Progress

TIME, September 9, 1940

The faith of his college, the Harvard University of 1890, was Science and Truth.

In 1909 the home town of Emancipator Abraham Lincoln, Springfield, Ill., was the scene of race riots, a lynching. Du Bois lost faith in Science and Progress, dropped his research at Atlanta University for a new policy: Propaganda. He founded a crusading monthly, *The Crisis,* became an executive of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, struggled no less against the submissive Negro philosophy of Booker T. Washington than against white prejudices.

By 1932 Du Bois thought he saw two world trends: 1) the waning of capitalism; 2) the waning concept of man as a rational being. From these he derived a new program for U. S. Negroes: 1) cooperative action among Negro consumers, building toward industrial democracy, *i.e.*, socialism; 2) recognition of the deep, irrational roots of race prejudice, demanding "on our part not only the patience to wait, but the power to entrench ourselves for a long siege. . . ."

Negroes dislike twice-disillusioned Du Bois's newest plan because it accepts racial segregation. Whites dislike its Marxist economics. At 72, W. E. Burghardt Du Bois stands alone but not unrespected. When he broke with the N. A. A. C. P. in 1934, his colleagues conceded: "He created what never existed before, a Negro intelligentsia. . . ."

Negro History

THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA, *compiled by workers of the Writers' Program of the Works Project Administration in the State of Virginia. Hastings House. $2.50.*

THIS is a good piece of work, though it is marred occasionally by factual errors and a tendency toward "diplomatic" writing. An example of the former is inaccuracy in dates: one beneath an illustration pertaining to Nat Turner, another in regard to the founding of the American Colonization Society, and still another concerning the revolt aboard the slave ship *Lafayette.* More important is the writers' erroneous assertion that the Negroes landed at Jamestown in 1619 were the first to touch these shores. Aside from Leo Wiener's good evidence of the presence of Africans here years before Columbus, it is certain that Negroes were present in what are now Florida and South Carolina early in the sixteenth century.

Examples of diplomatic verbiage: Instead of recording, as was the fact, that Thomas Jefferson was the father of mulatto children, the book tells us that he found "companions" among the Negroes. And the reference to John Randolph's years of infamy and sadistic cruelty to his slaves as a passing "mood" is a choice bit of understatement. Also, after observing the cruelty inherent in slavery, the authors assure us that this is "the exception rather than the general rule."

Nevertheless, basically the work is sound. The chapters on religion, the underground railroad, the Civil War, and Reconstruction are particularly good. But it is the copious quotations from ex-slaves that make this book really invaluable for all students of Negro history and of American life. The verbatim statements are the most beautiful as well as the most precious portions of the work. These old Negro men and women speak in the delicious simplicity and imagery and earnestness that are inimitable qualities of their people's folk tales and spirituals.

HERBERT APTHEKER.

Alabama College Completes Study Of Chilton County

OCT 11 1940

MONTEVALLO, Oct. 10.—Alabama College this week is mailing copies of its most recent study, "Alabama Rural Communities—A Study of Chilton County," by Dr. Irwin T. Sanders, to all the State editors, county farm agents, welfare workers, county superintendents of education, high school principals and community leaders throughout the State.

In his 80-page book Dr. Sanders gives the results of an intensive survey which he conducted in Chilton County with the aid of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Told in a non-technical way, he discusses in part one, "How Do You View the Community?" Part Two is entitled "The Neighborhoods of Chilton County," treating in detail the communities of Clanton, Jemison, Thorsby, Verbena, and Maplesville. Part Three consists of suggestions by the author for learning more about other natural communities in the State and is entitled "Why Not Learn More About the Communities of Your County?"

The study is illustrated with pen-and-ink drawings by Miss Marjorie Plank, of Gadsden, and by maps and photographs. The book carries an introduction by Donald Comer, chairman for Alabama in the Southwide Campaign for Balanced Prosperity, 1940-50; and a foreword by President A. F. Harman, of Alabama College.

In the publication Dr. Sanders examines the significance of determining the natural communities in the work of the businessman, minister, farm worker, educator and editor, explaining how the smaller neighborhoods which grow up around a church or school or a crossroad store and grist mill combine to make up a larger community where leadership and social participation are important factors. In his introduction Mr. Comer says of this study: "If we are to have vision, if we are to progress, if we are to want something better for tomorrow, it is worthwhile to have a definite starting time and place, and in this inventory of Chilton County we are well on the way."

DR. IRWIN T. SANDERS

The South As It Really Is

'The South In Progress' Is Vivid Study

By Rob F. Hall

Southern reaction, having an uneasy conscience, is always sorely disturbed by criticism. At the first breath of reproof it flies to its familiar old refuge, that of demanding to know from precisely what place **outside** the South this particular critic has come, and by what right does this outlander dare to besmirch the reputation of our region. This tactic has usually been found much easier than attempting to answer the specific arguments of the critic.

A congenital insensitivity, not unusual in Bourbons, has apparently blinded the Southern ruling class to the fact that the most thorough analyses of conditions in the South and the most devastating exposes of the corrupt and reactionary Bourbons responsible for these conditions have come precisely from Southerners. There was H. W. Hepburn, for instance, and his **The Impending Crisis.** There was, among others, W. H. Skaggs of Alabama and his passionate indictment, **The Southern Oligarchy.** There is today, heading the list, James W. Ford of Alabama whose articles and speeches have been published under the title, **The Negro and the Democratic Front.**

Significant Volume

And now comes a new book to take its place in this honorable list **The South in Progress,** by Katherine DuPre Lumpkin [International Publishers, $2]. Like the above mentioned authors, Miss Lumpkin cannot be dismissed nor her charges evaded by appeal to the old dodge of "Northerner." Miss Lumpkin is one of us. She is as Southern as magnolia blossoms and hookworm. We are afraid that this time Senator Cotton Ed Smith of South Carolina, Editor Grover Hall of Montgomery, and Martin Dies of Texas will have either to get down to cases or—just take it.

Pellagra-ridden Children of the South

And while we may permit ourselves the pleasant indulgence of anticipating the dismay of the Bourbons when they come upon Miss Lumpkin's book, it is necessary to point out that the real significance of the book is the clarification and stimulation it will give to honest Southern students of the South, to intellectuals and liberals who are genuinely concerned with finding a solution to the complicated problems of our region, and to workers and farmers who are organizing and leading their fellows in the movement to remedy the bitter poverty of the South.

The **South in Progress** is not a lengthy book. It is brief with that brevity which comes from a thorough knowledge of the subject and from painstaking working and reworking of the material to eliminate everything that does not contribute to the concise, but well rounded picture. Miss Lumpkin limits herself mainly to the decade of the 1930's, and for this reason is able to treat adequately, in the 240 pages, the many and profound social developments that have taken place in this, as she calls it, "vital period."

Describes 'Land of Cotton'

"In the decade of the 1930's, "Miss Lumpkin writes, "Southern problems came to the forefront of national attention. Labor and political changes brought a tendency to deal with them on a national scale But they also brought us squarely up against those who think things should remain very much as they are. This small but influential group would have us deal with these staggering Southern questions in the old ways. We shall see that considerations of human welfare rule that out."

Miss Lumpkin examines the South first as the "land of cotton" the destiny of which has been so closely intertwined with this crop. The Civil War freed the slaves but the plantation and cotton culture remained. It is the plantation system, she shows, which persisting through sharecropping, has cast a baleful influence over the social and economic life of the South. "The depressed condition of all agricultural labor in the South, especially Negro labor, flows from the plantation system, and . . . the lower wages of Southern industrial workers in the end stem from the same cause."

By using a few bold strokes, the author is able to avoid the tedious recital of statistics and at the same time to give the reader a clear picture of how the sharecropping system works and of the shocking fruits of this system in the impoverished, blighted lives of the people.

She shows that workers in Southern industries receive lower wages than their fellow-workers in the North, and blasts the Southern chamber of commerce claim that living costs are "lower in the South." She shows how this differential, in its sharpest form, affects the Negro worker, and how in all phases of Southern life, the Negro carries a double burden.

Against this background of intensive exploitation of the common people, Miss Lumpkin discusses civil liberties in the South.

"The South's deplorable conditions could not have continued year after year if popular groups had been allowed free exercise of their constitutional civil liberties. Working people by organized effort have sought changes, but under the most stifling handicaps. Violations of the civil rights of organized labor present the most critical problem."

And thus one is able to see the poll tax and the disfranchisement of the Negro people not as an abstract issue of civil rights, but as one bound up completely with the struggle of the common people to change their conditions — and the determination of the Bourbons to block any change.

Organization Is Answer

Miss Lumpkin believes that the welfare of the South is bound up not with the "small but influential group" of Bourbons now in the saddle, but with the people, the workers, farmers, middle classes and the Negro people. She feels that the South will progress to the extent that the people are organized and achieve unity among themselves. Finally, it is her conviction that the South will advance, not as an isolated region, chary of ties with the rest of the country, but as a part of the progressive movement in the nation.

In a calm voice, the acme of reasonableness, Miss Lumpkin seeks to convince her fellow Southerners to this enlightened point of view. There is no Solid South of reaction. There is only the ruling class

clique, hanging on to reactionary ways of life, and ruling by dint of the divisions among the people, and the lack of democracy. It is these gentlemen who have the voice in the press and the halls of government, and speak through Carter Glass, George, Dies, Reynolds and company.

But there is another South, the South of the common people who are organizing into unions and farm organizations. The CIO especially has blazed a trail in militant trade unionism, uniting Negro and white. The Negro people themselves have come forward with their own organizations, speaking in new tones of confidence, strength and determination. There is a powerful movement here for civil liberty and the right to vote. These are developments which should encourage the progressive Southern leaders and intellectuals, Miss Lumpkin shows.

The second New Deal based itself, to a degree, on this popular movement. President Roosevelt put forward a program of federal aid which had special relevance for the South: protection of labor's rights, financial aid for health and education, improvement of wage standards and working conditions. This program had the support of the Southern people although it was bitterly fought by the Southern Tories.

The Road To Progress

Miss Lumpkinu concludes her book with the end of this second New Deal, the outbreak of the second Imperialist war, and the abandonment of progressive reform by the Administration. She could not, of course, explore in detail the effects of these developments on the South as a whole. However, she indicates that only a continued struggle for the social aims of the New Deal, and democracy, constitute the road to progress for the South.

We Communists, of course, draw more far-reaching conclusions from Miss Lumpkin's material. We completely agree that objections and methods she has outlined are valid and deserving of the full support of the people. But we know that only a socialist system will cure the deep-seated evils of the South and provide the means for the fullest development of our natural resources and our people, Negro and white. But this is a conclusion which the Southern people will learn for themselves as they organize and struggle for the immediate goals urged by Miss Lumpkin.

The **South in Progress** is indeed a milestone for the South. It is the definitive book about the South from 1930 to 1940. It is the sort of book which every trade union leader, progressive statesman, socially conscious clergyman, every honest student of affairs should have.

It seems to this reviewer that we could all, with good cause, make it our business to see that this book is made known to such people, not only in the South, but in other sections, too.

Among progressives in the North, the book will reveal the real obstacles that must be overcome in winning the South for progress, at the same time dispelling the unjustified pessimism, prevailing in certain quarters, as to the possibilities for a victorious progressive Southern people's movement.

American Negroes

THE NEGRO IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, *by Herbert Aptheker. International Publishers. 15 cents.*

New Masses August 27, 194

WITH the publication of *The Negro in the American Revolution,* Herbert Aptheker gives us the third in his series of pamphlets on the Negro in American history. Like his two previous works, *The Negro in the Civil War* and *Negro Slave Revolts in the United States,* the new pamphlet is scholarly, well documented, the result of painstaking research. It is also very well written.

The theory of man's legal and political equality, the philosophical basis of the American as well as other bourgeois and bourgeois-democratic revolutions, had its impact also upon the Negroes in the Thirteen Colonies. Because they desired America's freedom and their own, the slaves and free Negroes rushed into every branch of the service. Crispus Attucks, Negro dockhand, a member of the Sons of Liberty, was the revolution's earliest martyr, the first to die in the Boston massacre. Negroes were seamen and pilots in the infant navy. They were at Lexington and Concord when the colonists fired the shot heard round the world. They froze at Valley Forge. They fought in great numbers at Bunker Hill. They helped Ethan Allen capture Fort Ticonderoga. They served at Saratoga and Stony Point and Monmouth and Trenton and in almost every battle of the Revolutionary War. They crossed the Delaware with Washington, one of them in the commander's own boat, although you would not guess it from Emmanuel Leutze's famous painting of that event. They acted as spies, and in this capacity made possible Anthony Wayne's capture of Stony Point. About seven hundred Haitian Negroes joined the French in Savannah, then carried the fight for freedom back to their homeland. Henri Christophe was one of that number.

Yet this was only a bourgeois revolution. It had its contradictions and its inconsistencies. South Carolina offered a prime slave as bounty for revolutionary volunteers. In many colonies Negroes were not accepted for service. Thousands of Negroes fled, or took part in slave insurrections, or joined the army of the British, who (in many cases falsely) promised them freedom. The Negroes were consistent in their desire for liberty; the revolution inconsistent in applying its declaration of principles. If a revolution desires allies among an oppressed people, it must fight for their freedom also. That is one of the lessons which *The Negro in the American Revolution* brings home to us.

We await Herbert Aptheker's next work with eagerness.

JENNY CASTNER.

Story of the Mississippi Teems with River's Life

Daily Tribune 8-14-40 Chicago, Ill.

"Big River to Cross," by Ben Lucien Burman. (John Day, $3.) To be published tomorrow.

BY FANNY BUTCHER.

Ben Lucien Burman, who has written three memorable novels about the river—"Mississippi," "Steamboat Round the Bend," and "Blow for a Landing"—now for the first time gives us a factual book, altho his novels have all been so true in their facts and even in the tone of their fancies that they have seemed more record than fiction.

"Big River to Cross" is a series of chapters on every possible phase of life on the Mississippi, chapters so fascinating that readers will not skip a line for fear of missing something. And they may well scan each sentence, for here is not only the very soul of the father of waters but the essence of the lives which live on and by it.

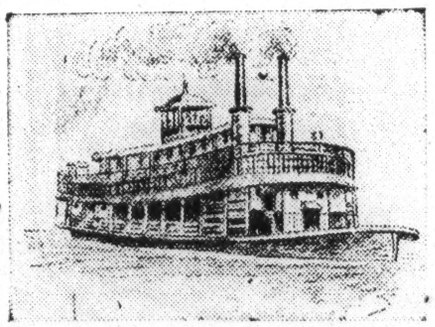
Here are the fabulous tall tales of the roustabouts, their voodoo superstitions, their gayety, and their sadness unexpectedly embroidering the fascinating story of a great waterway's economic rebirth, its fantastic vagary of shifting shore line and ever snaking channels, and man's endless labor in conquering those vagaries.

Here a sleek river packet sweeps up from New Orleans to Saint Paul on an epic and pioneer journey, and a barge boat makes a hazardous journey downriver. Here the river reluctantly gives itself to the sea thru mosquito filled banks unexpectedly populated with Jugo-Slavs.

Here the north river Negroes roust in silence and the south river roustabouts chant their muscles into tautness. Here there is river fun and river sadness, showboats, gambling, sudden death. Here the river lights are tended with high courage by shantymen and women whose parents and grandparents before them tended these same lights. Here the shanty folk live, vividly, as do the boat crews.

Here are the fabulous tales, roistering laughter, a folklore rich and lush, and the author's love for the river, which is a mixture of tenderness and respect, fascination and minute knowledge of its whims and its majesties.

Thruout the book there echoes the plummet's soundings, "quarter twain, half twain, six feet" . . . and one feels on each page how truly the author has himself plumbed the river's spiritual as well as its actual depth.



One of the Alice Caddy drawings from "Big River to Cross."

Books Published Today

BLACK GOLD STAMPEDE, by Ed Moore. (Doubleday, Doran, $2.) A Western novel.

CONTEMPORARY SOUTHERN PROSE, edited by R. C. Beatty and W. P. Fidler. (Heath, Boston, $2.50.) Short stories, essays and criticism representing thirty-two authors.

New York Times

DEATH OF A LUCKY LADY, by Virginia Rath. (Crime Club, $2.) A mystery novel. Sept 6, 194

DUSK OF DAWN, by W. E. B. Du Bois. (Harcourt, Brace, $3.) The Negro writer and educator, at 72 writes his autobiography.

JOHN BROWN'S COUSIN, by Jane Hutchens. (Doubleday, Doran, $2.50.) A novel of early Missouri.

New York

MR. AND MRS. MEIGS, by Elizabeth Corbett. (Appleton-Century, $2.) A novel. Mrs. Meigs is now 40 and married ten years.

MY NATIVE LAND, by Anna Louise Strong. (Viking, $2.75.) A returned world traveler tells us about ourselves.

PSYCHOTHERAPY, by Lewellys F. Barker. (Appleton-Century, $2.)

RUDYARD KIPLING, by Edward Shanks. (Doubleday, Doran, $2.50.) A critical study.

SUEZ AND PANAMA, by André Siegfried. (Harcourt, Brace, $3.) The canals' histories, financing, commerce and military roles.

THE BOTTLENECKS OF BUSINESS, by Thurman W. Arnold. (Reynal & Hitchcock, $2.50.) *Reviewed today.*

THE HOUSE OF LEE, by Gertrude Atherton. (Appleton-Century. $2.50.) A novel about a wealthy and aristocratic San Francisco family.

UNCERTAIN APRIL, by Celia Page. (Doubleday, Doran, $2.) A novel.

WALLFLOWER, by Ruby M. Ayres. (Doubleday, Doran, $2.) A novel

THE ROCK BOOK, by C. L. Fenton and M. A. Fenton. (Doubleday, Doran, $6.) All about rocks. Illustrated in color, with photographs and line drawings.

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New Masses August 27, 194

WITH the publication of *The Negro in the American Revolution,* Herbert Aptheker gives us the third in his series of pamphlets on the Negro in American history. Like his two previous works, *The Negro in the Civil War* and *Negro Slave Revolts in the United States,* the new pamphlet is scholarly, well documented, the result of painstaking research. It is also very well written.

The theory of man's legal and political equality, the philosophical basis of the American as well as other bourgeois and bourgeois-democratic revolutions, had its impact also upon the Negroes in the Thirteen Colonies. Because they desired America's freedom and their own, the slaves and free Negroes rushed into every branch of the service. Crispus Attucks, Negro dockhand, a member of the Sons of Liberty, was the revolution's earliest martyr, the first to die in the Boston massacre. Negroes were seamen and pilots in the infant navy. They were at Lexington and Concord when the colonists fired the shot heard round the world. They froze at Valley Forge. They fought in great numbers at Bunker Hill. They helped Ethan Allen capture Fort Ticonderoga. They served at Saratoga and Stony Point and Monmouth and Trenton and in almost every battle of the Revolutionary War. They crossed the Delaware with Washington, one of them in the commander's own boat, although you would not guess it from Emmanuel Leutze's famous painting of that event. They acted as spies, and in this capacity made possible Anthony Wayne's capture of Stony Point. About seven hundred Haitian Negroes joined the French in Savannah, then carried the fight for freedom back to their homeland. Henri Christophe was one of that number.

Yet this was only a bourgeois revolution. It had its contradictions and its inconsistencies. South Carolina offered a prime slave as bounty for revolutionary volunteers. In many colonies Negroes were not accepted for service. Thousands of Negroes fled, or took part in slave insurrections, or joined the army of the British, who (in many cases falsely) promised them freedom. The Negroes were consistent in their desire for liberty; the revolution inconsistent in applying its declaration of principles. If a revolution desires allies among an oppressed people, it must fight for their freedom also. That is one of the lessons which *The Negro in the American Revolution* brings home to us.

We await Herbert Aptheker's next work with eagerness.

JENNY CASTNER.

Story of the Mississippi Teems with River's Life

Daily Tribune 8-14-40 Chicago, Ill.

"Big River to Cross," by Ben Lucien Burman. (John Day, $3.) To be published tomorrow.

BY FANNY BUTCHER.

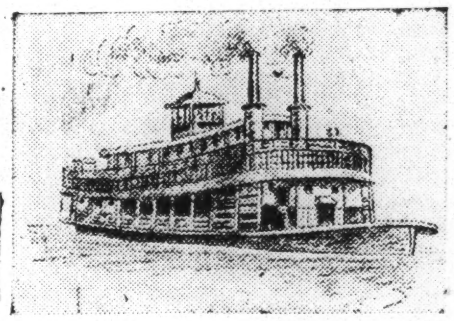
Ben Lucien Burman, who has written three memorable novels about the river—"Mississippi," "Steamboat Round the Bend," and "Blow for a Landing"—now for the first time gives us a factual book, altho his novels have all been so true in their facts and even in the tone of their fancies that they have seemed more record than fiction.

"Big River to Cross" is a series of chapters on every possible phase of life on the Mississippi, chapters so fascinating that readers will not skip a line for fear of missing something. And they may well scan each sentence, for here is not only the very soul of the father of waters but the essence of the lives which live on and by it.

Here are the fabulous tall tales of the roustabouts, their voodoo superstitions, their gayety, and their sadness unexpectedly embroidering the fascinating story of a great waterway's economic rebirth, its fantastic vagary of shifting shore line and ever snaking channels, and man's endless labor in conquering those vagaries.

Here a sleek river packet sweeps up from New Orleans to Saint Paul on an epic and pioneer journey, and a barge boat makes a hazardous journey downriver. Here the river reluctantly gives itself to the sea thru mosquito filled banks unexpectedly populated with Jugo-Slavs.

Here the north river Negroes roust in silence and the south river roustabouts chant their muscles into tautness. Here there is river fun and river sadness, showboats, gambling, sudden death. Here the river lights are tended with high courage by shantymen and women whose parents and grandparents before them tended these same lights. Here the shanty folk live, vividly, as do the boat crews.



One of the Alice Caddy drawings from "Big River to Cross."

Here are the fabulous tales, roistering laughter, a folklore rich and lush, and the author's love for the river, which is a mixture of tenderness and respect, fascination and minute knowledge of its whims and its majesties.

Thruout the book there echoes the plummet's soundings, "quarter twain, half twain, six feet" . . . and one feels on each page how truly the author has himself plumbed the river's spiritual as well as its actual depth.

Books Published Today

BLACK GOLD STAMPEDE, by Ed Moore. (Doubleday, Doran, $2.) A Western novel.

CONTEMPORARY SOUTHERN PROSE, edited by R. C. Beatty and W. P. Fidler. (Heath, Boston, $2.50.) Short stories, essays and criticism representing thirty-two authors.

New York Times

DEATH OF A LUCKY LADY, by Virginia Rath. (Crime Club, $2.) A mystery novel. Sept 6, 194

DUSK OF DAWN, by W. E. B. Du Bois. (Harcourt, Brace, $3.) The Negro writer and educator, at 72 writes his autobiography.

JOHN BROWN'S COUSIN, by Jane Hutchens. (Doubleday, Doran, $2.50.) A novel of early Missouri.

New York

MR. AND MRS. MEIGS, by Elizabeth Corbett. (Appleton-Century, $2.) A novel. Mrs. Meigs is now 40 and married ten years.

MY NATIVE LAND, by Anna Louise Strong. (Viking, $2.75.) A returned world traveler tells us about ourselves.

PSYCHOTHERAPY, by Lewellys F. Barker. (Appleton-Century, $2.)

RUDYARD KIPLING, by Edward Shanks. (Doubleday, Doran, $2.50.) A critical study.

SUEZ AND PANAMA, by André Siegfried. (Harcourt, Brace, $3.) The canals' histories, financing, commerce and military roles.

THE BOTTLENECKS OF BUSINESS, by Thurman W. Arnold. (Reynal & Hitchcock, $2.50.) *Reviewed today.*

THE HOUSE OF LEE, by Gertrude Atherton. (Appleton-Century. $2.50.) A novel about a wealthy and aristocratic San Francisco family.

THE ROCK BOOK, by C. L. Fenton and M. A. Fenton. (Doubleday, Doran, $6.) All about rocks. Illustrated in color, with photographs and line drawings.

WALLFLOWER, by Ruby M. Ayres. (Doubleday, Doran, $2.) A novel.

UNCERTAIN APRIL, by Celia Page. (Doubleday, Doran, $2.) A novel.

QUEST FOR EQUALITY

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

By ROBERT S. ABBOTT

Founder, Chicago Defender

INSTALLMENT VII

I HAD NO ILLUSIONS about the workaday world. I knew there were difficulties aplenty to surmount; I knew that Chicago was no El Dorado. But I felt that here in a city that grew around a trading post there were golden opportunities for anyone with energy and determination.

Although I suffered a great deal while attempting to get a foothold, it was a necessary experience. Few individuals in this world have attained their objectives without trials and tribulations. The path to success is difficult and rocky. With good health, determination, courage and a definite goal one's dream usually comes to pass.

Had No Desire To Quit

I had, fortunately all of these. I had made up my mind to accomplish one thing, that was to give my people a newspaper that would champion fearlessly the cause of the Race. I saw very clearly the urgent need for an adequate, progressive and militant organ. My friends thought I was a fool for wanting to enter a field in which so many had failed. But I kept on nursing my ideas until, the time was ripe for executing them. I admit the going was tough. However, I kept plugging, and even in the darkest hour when I couldn't pay my room rent and had to almost beg for my meals, I did not entertain the desire to quit.

There were many things I could have done which would have relieved my anxiety and the pangs of hunger and cold. Had I followed any other course than the one which I had mapped out, I might have had an easy life but I would not have attained my goal. As I look back now on those early years of bitter struggle for an ideal, I feel that my sufferings were not in vain. There is no greater pleasure that can come to a human being than to witness the triumph of his ideals. I succeeded long enough for those who had ridiculed me to turn their criticisms into praise. They came to my office, into my home saying the proverbial, "I told you so," and "I knew you could do it," forgetting that they were among those who had laughed at me and ridiculed me. Nevertheless I received them warmly and always with a smile.

Book Review

ORATION BY FREDERICK DOUGLASS AT UNVEILING OF FREEDMEN'S MONUMENT IN MEMORY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN. PUBLISHED FOR THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL LEAGUE BY PATHWAY PRESS, 209 W. 125th ST., NEW YORK

4-13-40

As the forword to this handsomely printed pamphlet declares, this oration by Frederick Douglass, who was perhaps the greatest statesman whom the colored people of the nited States has produced, "is not merely a masterpiece of oratory in its best and noblest form—it is at the same time one of the most penetrating estimates, if not the most penetrating estimate, of the life, character and role of the Martyr President who guided our nation through the crisis of Civil War to Emancipation."

Delivered on April 14, 1876, when the monument erected by the Freedmen in memory of Abraham Lincoln was unveiled in Lincoln Park, Washington, the oration reveals, in many passages, the keeen, realistic insight which Douglass possessed regarding the underlying causes of the Civil War. It was part of the greatness of Douglass never to look at even a great ndividual like Lincoln through the listorted lenses of popular adulation. On this occasion he said, "It must be admited, truth compels me to admit, even here in the presence of the monument we have erected to his memory. Abraham Lincoln was not, in the fullest sense of the word, either our man or our model." Why he regarded him as "pre-eminently the white man's President, entirely devoted to the welfare of white men" Douglass explains by citing Lincoln's failure to see at the outset that the war was a war waged by the slave-owning class in the South for the preservation and extension of the institution of chatel slavery, by showing that the President at first opposed the levying of colored troops; and by pointing to Lincoln's belief that colonization (in anticipation of Marcus Garvey) was the solution of the problem of the colored people as a racial minority. Douglass reviews all the President's hesitancies and vacillations, while he pays due tribute to the greatness which elevated him, as preserver of the Union from traitorous disruption, to a status among American statesmen second only to that accorded the first President of the Republic.

The present pamphlet, which sells for twenty-five cents, is a reprint which deserves only commendation in the highest degree; the text is well edited. I hope the Pathway Press will undertake the issue of other speeches by Douglass, who was our greatest orator, or by other fore-runners of freedom.—W. E. H.

WHAT ATLANTA IS READING NOW

Constitution

Best sellers for the past week in Atlanta as reported by Miller's Book Store, Davison-Paxon's, and Rich's Departmen Stores to The New York Times were:

FICTION.

THIS SIDE OF GLORY. By Gwen Bristow. (Crowell).
NATIVE SON. By Richard Wright (Harper.)
THE GRAPES OF WRATH. By John Steinbeck. (Viking.)
MRS. SKEFFINGTON. By Elizabeth. (Doubleday, Doran.)
KITTY FOYLE. By Christopher Morley. (Lippencott.)
THE NAZARENE. By Sholem Asch (Putnam.)

NON-FICTION.

HOW TO READ A BOOK. By Mortimer J. Adler. (Simon and Schuster.)
A SMATTERING OF IGNORANCE By Oscar Levant. (Doubleday, Doran.
CHIP OFF MY SHOULDER. By Thomas L. Stokes. (Princeton University Press.)
THINK AND GROW RICH. By Napoleon Hill. (Ralston Society.)
WIND, SAND AND STARS. By Antoine de St. Exupery. (Reynal and Hitchcock.)
GROOVE YOUR GOLF. By Ralph Gulhadl. (International Sports.)

Two New WPA Books Have Facts On Negro

ing compiled in connection with the American Guide Series. Two books containing Negro lore have already been widely distributed — "These Are Our Lives" and "Yesterday and Today."

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Two state guides, newly added to the American Guide Series of the Work Projects Administration, contain essays on the Negro and the part he has played in the history of those states.

"North Carolina: Guide to the Old North State" and "Tennessee: Guide to the Volunteer State" both contain important documentary accounts of the Negro in the South, according to Sterling Brown, editor on Negro affairs for the WPA Writers' Program.

TREATMENT DIFFERS

In some of the state guide books the race is treated only incidentally, but he is nevertheless found to have played a vital part in many interesting incidents in the history of the states and localities.

Most of the guides published in states having large colored populations contain much information about the race that has never before been collected for publication. This is especially true of the city guides that supplement the states series.

The guides to Washington, New Orleans, Philadelphia and New York City, with its portrait of Harlem, are examples of this broad racial treatment. Many hitherto unknown facts about the race are included also in the sectional guide. 'The Mississippi Gulf Coast," and in "Delaware: A Guide to the First State."

TWO MORE PLANNED

Two books dealing entirely with the life and the lore of the race being prepared by the WPA writers are scheduled for early appearance, Mr. Brown amounced this week.

They are "A Survey of Negroes in Little Rock, Ark.," and "The Negroes of Nebraska." These will be added to the volumes of Americana be-

Branches of the National Urban League in Little Rock and Omaha, respectively, are sponsoring the projects producing the books in their cities.

Some of the country's best known writers have been connected with the WPA Writers' Program. Among these are Zora Neale Hurston, Richard Wright, and Claude McKay. As many as 180 colored writers have been employed as editors, assistant editors, research workers, consultants and typists.

PHOTOGRAPHER EMPLOYED

In the preparation of "The Negro in Virginiagro in Virginia," a young photographer was employed to take pictures of Negro life to illustrate this book, scheduled for distribution in May. This was the first time a photographer of the race has been given such an assignment on the project.

Mr. Brown is assisted by Eugene Holmes in supervising the program. The staff has received advice on matters relating to various phases of the race from: Horace Mann Bond, Elmer Carter, Ralph Bunche, E. Franklyn Frazier Abram Harris, Walter White, Carter G. Woodson, and other authorities.

Publish 'Inside' Story on KKK

NEW YORK. — "The Klan hates America. America is 130,000,000 people—and the Klan hates most of them."

Dubbing the revived Ku Klux Klan "Hatred, Inc." on the basis of a "hate count", Equality, a journal published at 512 Fifth Ave., New York, to combat racial and religious intolerance, devotes the leading space in its April issue to an article entitled, "Catholics, Jews, Negroes, Labor—the Klan Hates Them All."

CHOICE OF LIBRARY BOOKS

To the Editor The News:

I want to express my appreciation of your splendid editorial, "Banning Books Indirectly." It was an honest statement, and I am sure that it has the support of all democratically thinking people in Birmingham.

I have read with interest the letters in this column on the exclusion of Richard Wright's "Native Son" from the shelves of the Birmingham Public Library. I have read the book, and my opinion, and that of others who have read it, is that the people of the South may learn much from it. At any rate, they ought to be given a chance to decide. Certainly, whether or not they agree with its treatment of the subject, they can be proud of having produced so fine a writer as Mr. Wright.

It would seem that we are being asked to stretch our credulity a bit thin in accepting the excuse that this book, and last year "The Grapes of Wrath," were not placed on the shelves of the Birmingham Public Library because of lack of money. As your editorial states, both books have provoked a great deal of interest nationally. But both are of a "controversial" nature and it has been claimed by some that they are offensive. Are we, then, to believe that the Birmingham Public Library has so little faith in the discrimination of its readers, considers them so un-adult, that it must select their literary diet?

The library can prove its good faith yet by putting the purchase of "Native Son" on its next month's list. Let's hope that your editorial will help prevent such blunders in the future.

MRS. C. A. HERMANSON.

Birmingham.

2 New WPA Writers Program Books Have Facts On The Negro

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Greenville S. C. Piedmont
April 18, 1940

Literature Of Negro Traced

Professor Lane Discusses 'New Negro' In South Carolina Education Publication

By EARL MAZO

CLEMSON, Apr. 18—Prof. John D. Lane, of the Clemson college English department, tells of the "new negro" and his place in literature in an article entitled "Negro Writers in College Textbooks" published in current issue of "South Carolina Education."

Pointing to the establishment and growth of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Prof. Lane traces the development of literature produced by negroes from the turn of the century of 1920, when works of negro authors began appearing in national American magazines, and the 1930 when those works began to appear in college textbooks.

The Clemson professor says that the "new negro" is not interested in imitating the whites, but wants to develop a literature of his own. Quoting Langston Hughes, a negro poet, on this subject, he says ". . . We young negro artists intend to express our individual dark-skinned selves without fear or shame."

"Miscegenation and fad are two popular contentions for the rise of the negro's literature," Prof. Lane said. "Many of the negro writers have more white blood than colored," the article points out, and; "The negro in literature is still an oddity, and oftentimes his work is greeted from the standpoint of race and not art." These contentions Lake said, are purely speculative.

Discussing the attitude taken by some of the poets, Prof. Lane showed where the trend to race-consciousness. "It is my personal opinion that race consciousness is the first barrier the would-be negro poet will have to remove before he can ever be an artist. No real art ever came from self-consciousness."

Recreation Worker Is Author of Book

By SAM SMITH

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Miss Jewell E. Anderson, supervisor of recreation of Southern California, member of National Recreation Association, has just completed a work on "Recreation, the Community and Worker." Miss Anderson, a graduate of Fisk and the University of Southern California holds an A. B. and a graduate degree is considered one of the outstanding workers in the field of sociology.

Making an exhaustive study, consulting outstanding Negro Authority on Sociology of the Coast, observing and her contact in her work as social worker. Miss Anderson has used this information and data to a good advantage. Covering many phases of the field, "The Theory of Play and Administration Methods; Its Objective and Programs; Influence Upon Character; Its Relationship to Juvenile Delinquency." Miss Anderson's work will be invaluable for study and its relationships to Negro social life, and other races.

The author gives credit in her volume to Dr. Elbert Moore, authority on Negro history and activities. Mr. Carl Grosse, director, Ross Snyder municipal playground; Edgar F. Magnin, Rabbi of B'nai B'Rith and leader in social equality for their detailed and specific suggestions concerning social activities; M. Frederick Mitchell, pastor, Cosmopolitan Christian church and superintendent Eastside Community Center, for putting the author in touch with church and federated officials interested in the problems of recreation and juvenile delinquincy; to Mr. Karl Holton, chief probation officer of Los Angeles county, and to Mrs. Dessa Fultz, Los Angeles Board of Education, Recreational Department, under whose supervision the writer worked for three years. Especial gratitude is acknowledged to Mr. Wm. A. Easter, state director, Adult Education for Negroes in California.

Are You Upper or Lower Class?

SEP 14 1940

Most people do not think much about classes of society. If questioned, they would probably divide all population groups into those who have education and a job and those who have not.

A new book, "Children of Bondage," by Allison Davis and John Dollard, white, just published by the American Youth Commission, relates that the problem isn't that simple.

It points out that there are not two classes, but six. It divides people into lower, middle and upper classes and then sub-divides each of these three into an upper and lower class. AFRO readers interested in finding out the class to which they belong will like this book.

Davis and Dollard studied 200 children in New Orleans, and Natchez, Miss., and selected eight of them for intimate study of how they came to be what they are.

The types vary from a lower-lower-class, 16-year-old girl who will fight a man, curse a teacher or kiss a boy in the school yard, to an unhappy 16-year-old boy in an upper-upper-class family whose father earns $250 a month and has family dinner every afternoon at half past two.

"Children of Bondage" not only analyzes America's class system but also its caste system and comes to the conclusion that social class governs a much wider area of the child's training than the race friction growing out of the South's color line.

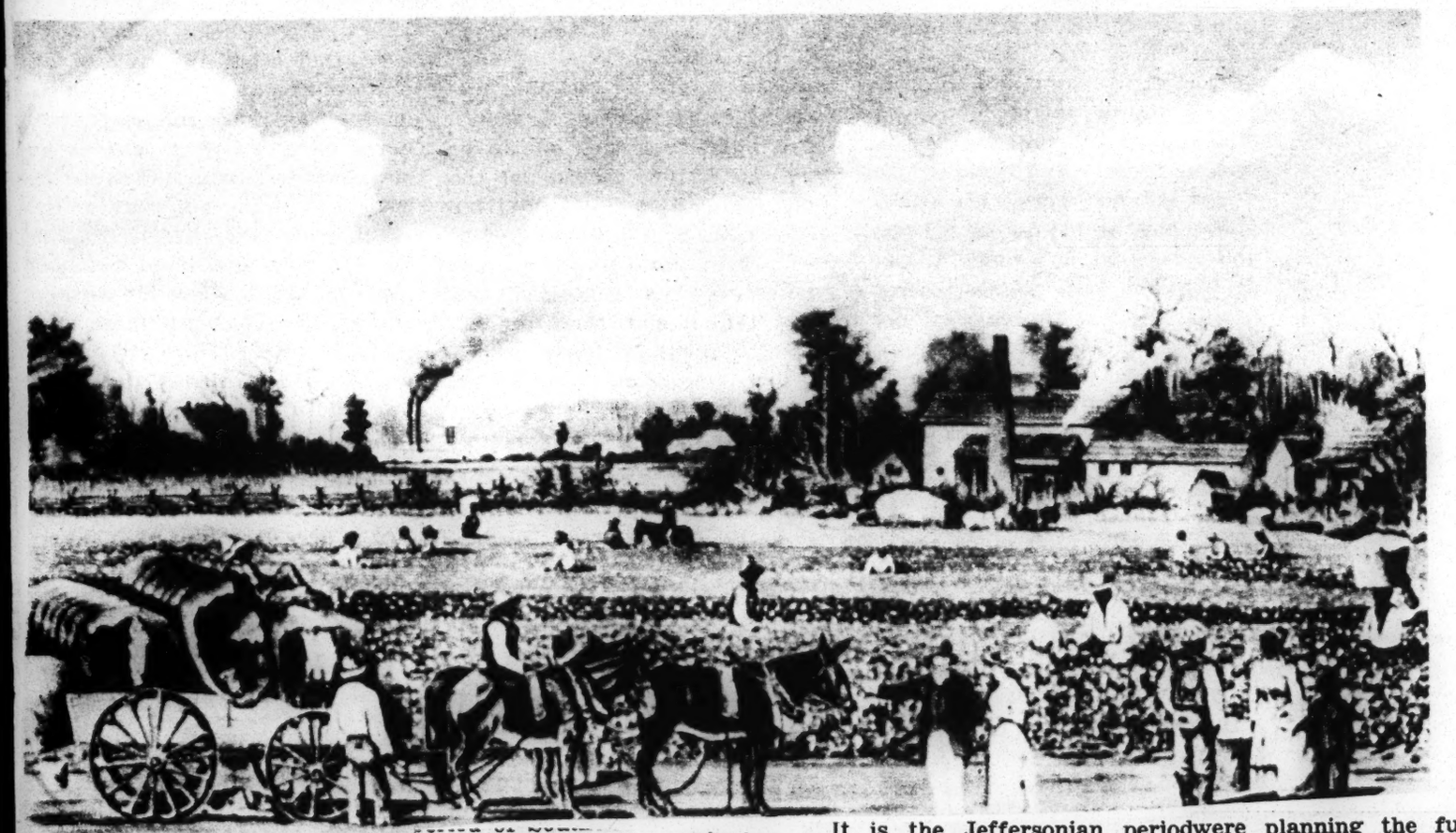
That, we think, is the most important and hopeful discovery of the authors, for if the South's caste system were the biggest influence in the lives of children, it would have us licked.

Richard Wright's "Native Son" gave us one picture of what it means to be colored. "Children of Bondage" gives us two hundred. America is shocked by the picture of Bigger Thomas's hatred of white oppression, it will be more startled by these laboratory studies, showing the deep and abiding animosity, resentment and horror which race prejudice has created in the minds of the darker children in the far South.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

The Control of Public Opinion in the Old South

Dr. Eaton's Illuminating Study of the Aristocracy's Dominant Influence



A Cotton Plantation on the Mississippi.

From a Currier & Ives Print. From "Freedom of Thought in the Old South."

FREEDOM OF THOUGHT IN THE OLD SOUTH. By Clement Eaton. 343 pp. Durham: Duke University Press. $3.

By WILLIAM SHANDS MEACHAM

OF the South it can be said, perhaps more aptly than of most of the regions of our country, that its modern mind is compounded of the stuff of which all its yesterdays were made. The social psychology that was being set in the mold of tradition in the antebellum years not only prepared the way for the vivid dramas of the Civil War and Reconstruction but partly conditioned the thinking of the former Confederate States as they limped along the road to reunion and eventual recognition as "economic problem No. 1." This is seen clearly enough in the mirror which Dr. Clement Eaton holds up to the period of Southern history which runs from 1790 to 1860, and which takes us from the liberalism of Thomas Jefferson to the pragmatism of John C. Calhoun who held slavery to be a "positive good."

Dr. Eaton's book gains a compelling importance by the thoroughness with which it portrays the successful control of public opinion in the antebellum South by a powerful minority. At the time of the Civil War there were less than 11,000 individuals, or about three-fourths of 1 per cent of the free population, numbered among the select Southern group whose members owned fifty or more slaves. This dominance of thought by a commanding minority forms the real theme of the book, and with war in Europe and America almost alone in the world in upholding the standard of freedom of thought, it is certainly not one of academic importance only.

It is the Jeffersonian period when Dr. Eaton begins the old Southern story. The author of the Declaration of Independence and the great Virginians of the Revolutionary period were saying that the peculiar institution that was slavery would be incompatible with the doctrines of the young democracy which had held that all men are created free and equal. The study of liberalism in the old South, and the forces that finally brought it into eclipse, ends almost at the moment when the people of Charleston and New Orleans are decking the statues of Calhoun with flowers because he had proved to be a prophet of war. We are taken up to the eve of the "irrepressible conflict."

It seemed, for a time, that the conflict might be avoided. It is over the early chapters of Dr. Eaton's book that one would like to linger. America had won her independence, and the liberators were planning the future. The life of the time was, for aristocrats with liberal views, one of noble amplitude. Many of them had been educated in England, and had traveled on the Continent. They had little to fear from "the leveling influence of the frontier," and their mood was expansive and cosmopolitan. The free-thinking Thomas Jefferson could sit up all night at Monticello and discuss Ossian's poems with the Marquis Chastellux, rather than some immediately urgent matter of government. Washington, Jefferson, Madison, George Wythe and other leaders of our period of the Revolution had almost without exception gone on record as favoring the emancipation of slaves, although they were not prepared to take the revolutionary step of immediate abolition. Jefferson himself was the author of a resolution introduced in the General Assembly of Virginia providing for the gradual abolition of slavery in that State. It did not pass, of course, but it represented the views of many of the aristocrats of the plantations.

"The Southern section of the United States was the home of a small but powerful aristocracy at the close of the eighteenth century," Dr. Eaton reminds us. The aristocrats lived in homes like Westover, Shirley, Stratford, Chantilly and Berry Hill. They were tobacco planters linked with Europe by the winds of trade that carried their ships loaded with hogsheads across the Atlantic. The tradition of *noblesse oblige*, the illiteracy of the masses, and other factors, gave them control of their government at home.

Had the star of the tobacco-planting class remained in the ascendancy, the Southern story might have been different. Slavery might have declined, and i human bondage had not exercise its tyranny over the Souther mind, who can say that the Civi War might not have been pre vented? Liberalism seemed t flower with the tobacco plants but the soil of Virginia was no inexhaustible. Then in 1793 El Whitney had invented the cotto gin and the transformation of the South's agricultural system hac begun. As the cotton fields expanded and the price of slaves skyrocketed, the "peculiar institution" became more firmly entrenched.

Dr. Eaton adroitly shows the subtle changes that took place in the Southern mind as it became a subject of King Cotton. The plantation was no longer a citadel of reason; its masters and mistresses read Sir Walter Scott's novels and watched for "alien ideas" from the ramparts of romanticism. There were some knights of the press in the old

South who were always forceful and persuasive enough to be able to speak their minds with comparative impunity. John Hampden Pleasants, editor of The Richmond Whig, and James E. Heath, the first editor of The Southern Literary Messenger, were among those who expressed a Jeffersonian point of view toward slavery, and were never shackled. There was some debate of slavery in Southern States in the early Eighteen Thirties; but after 1835 silence was the general policy. Laws that abridged free speech were not always rigidly enforced by any means, but the fear of "servile insurrection" was always present to act as a curb on freedom of thought in the South after 1831. That was the year in which Nat Turner, a slave of Southampton County, Virginia, led a revolt that resulted in the massacre of sixty-one white people. In this same signal year William Lloyd Garrison began the publication of The Liberator.

There was some intolerance in the South toward aliens, and some toward the heterodox, after the decline of Jeffersonian skepticism and the rise of evangelism for the masses, but it was slavery that placed freedom of thought in the old South in bonds. By 1850, Dr. Eaton tells us, a "striking change had taken place in the quality of leaders produced by the South." They were "warped by strong sectional prejudices, they lacked a catholic point of view, and they had lost the magic glow of republicanism." It was an angry leadership, too, which believed that the North was trying to free the South's slaves, and to punish the region by securing the passage of tariff laws favoring the Eastern manufacturers.

"Freedom of Thought in the Old South" won the $1,500 centennial prize offered by Duke University Press "for a scholarly manuscript in the field of social, literary or artistic history of the United States," and deserved it. It deserves a place on the shelf of Southern history beside Virginius Dabney's "Liberalism in the South."

Peonage Exposed By Chicago Author In National Mag.

Dr. L. K. Williams, National Baptist Convention Head Endorses Fight to Abolish Peonage Committee

CHICAGO.—Second of two articles exposing peonage or debt slavery in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, appeared in the April 5 issue of Friday magazine published in New York.

The first of the series, based upon evidence of peonage practices in Oglethorpe County, furnished by the Abolish Peonage Committee and the International Labor Defense to the Department of Justice, appeared in the March 29 issue of the magazine.

Auther of the series is J. Norman Schmidt, young Chicago writer. Copies of the issues containing the expose may be obtained for 10 cents each from Friday Magazine, 114 East 32nd street, New York City.

"In Great Sympathy"—Williams

Meanwhile, Dr. L. K. Williams, of Chicago, president of the National Baptist Co vention, largest Negro denomination in the country, wrote Bob Wirtz, committee secretary, April 4.

"I wish to state that we are in great sympathy with the work that the Abolish Peonage Committee is doing."

The committe is seeking federal prosecution of William T. Cunningham and other Oglethorpe County peonage barons.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON, the Negro poet, recorded in "Black Manhattan" (Alfred A. Knopf, $2.50) a very human account of the Negro in New York from Dutch colonial days, when there were only a dozen of them here, until now, when they number close to half a million.

Especially interesting is the story of the Negro's struggle upward in the entertainment field and the vivid, amusing sketches of the popular vaudeville teams of the past, like Cole and Johnson and Williams and Walker. There are condensed biographies of Negro writers, musicians and

A Dunbar Anthology

"LITTLE BROWN BABY." poems for young people, by Paul Laurence Dunbar. (Dodd, Mead, $1.50.)

DESIGNED for children "from 8 up," this book is composed of selections from the work of the beloved Negro poet Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906), together with a biographical sketch by Bertha Rodgers. Of the kind there is none to match the dialect poems of Dunbar. His dialect (in which he never spoke himself) was a synthetic one, not imitative of any special group of his race, yet it was one that amused the Northern whites and so gave him an audience for his more serious work. He came to regret this situation and in one of his poems wrote:

But ah, the world, it turned to praise
A jingle in a broken tongue

It is, however, his dialect poems, with their unfailing music, simplicity gentleness, and humor, that distinguish Paul Laurence Dunbar, not the prose and pure-English verse for which he hoped to be remembered The present collection is well selected and attractively presented, with lively pen-and-ink illustrations by Erick Berry. In all there are 25 poems, including such favorites as "When Malindy Sings," "The Boogah Man," "The Colored Band," and "Dat Ol' Mare O' Mine."

PAUL H. OEHSER.

dynamic personalities, and an excellent account of the growth of Negro journalism and the struggle for political recognition. The author leaves the reader in a hopeful mood, saying in conclusion:

It has often been stated as axiomatic that if Negroes were transplanted to the North in large numbers the race problem with all its acuteness and inflexibility would be transferred with them. Well, more than 200,000 Negroes live in the heart of Manhattan, nearly 100,000 more than live in any Southern city, and do so without race friction. The 200,000 Negroes have made themselves an integral part of New York citizenry.

THE revised edition of "The American Race Problem" (Thomas Y. Crowell, $3) is a sincere study of the political, economic, intellectual, moral and social aspects of the Negro in the United States, written by a trained sociologist, Professor Edward Byron Reuter, who was born in the South but has lived and taught in many other sections of the country. It is a most comprehensive treatment and each chapter is followed by a carefully chosen bibliography that includes all shades of opinion.

The author's discussion of the Negro's place in art and literature and the reasons why his achievement in these fields is not larger is particularly fair and interesting. To the complaint that the Negro has been seriously maligned in the writings of the white man, always made the clown or villain of the piece, Professor Reuter answers that this is true only in the sense that art is everywhere a distortion of reality. The sentimental, comic and grotesque side of Negro life and character have been perhaps over-exploited, but he points out that the Irish, the mother-in-law, the Jew, the white Southerner, the American farmer, the business man, and numerous others, have met a like literary fate.

Frazier Wins Prize for Book On Negro Life

Anisfield Award For 1939 Awarded To Howard Professor

E. Franklin Frazier, professor of sociology at Howard University, was announced yesterday as the winner of the $1,000 John Anisfield prize for 1939 for his book, "The Negro Family in the United States."

J. F. FRAZIER

The award, established six years ago by Edith Anisfield Wolf, of Cleveland, Ohio, in memory of her father, is given annually for the best book in the field of race relations published anywhere in the world.

Dr. Frazier, stating that Negroes react to social and economic conditions as individuals and not in any uniform manner, found in his book that "in the urban environment Negroes and whites in the same occupational classes are being drawn into closer association than in the past." His survey covered a period from the early days of slavery to the present time.

The prize winner obtained his doctorate in sociology at the University of Chicago, which published his book in its sociological series.

The award committee consisted of Dr. Henry Seidel Canby, contributing editor of the Saturday Review of Literature; Prof. Donald Young, of the Social Science Research Council, and Henry Pratt, professor of sociology at New York University and president of the Town Hall Club of New York.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

Romance in the Slave Era

CHAD HANNA, *by Walter D. Edmonds. Little, Brown & Co. $2.75.*

THE jacket of this book (a picaresque account of an orphan who had worked on the Erie Canal during the 1830's) recommends it to those who "love history and American character." This should have read, "for those who love history *of the circus* and *two dimensional* character." For *Chad Hanna's* claim to being historical lies in its reconstruction of early American circus life and manners; it intentionally avoids psychology and the social forces shaping the period, with the result that its characters are all surface.

We are told that Walter Edmonds spent three years and great pains to achieve historical accuracy. Yet when he attempts, in the manner of *Huckleberry Finn*, to portray the runaway slave of a period characterized by slave revolts, the Underground Railroad, sabotage, suicide, and other forms of Negro rebellion, he achieves a stereotype in the manner of one of Octavus Roy Cohen's moderns. It seems ironic that Mr. Edmonds, whose *Drums along the Mohawk* was vastly superior as historical fiction to that widely read book by a certain Southern lady, should find his own reasons to make romance of events attending the slave era. He introduces an abolitionist and a runaway slave for the sole purpose of involving *Chad Hanna* in the activities of the circus.

But, like the circus, *Chad Hanna* is meant to entertain; and at this it is fairly successful. We go along with the performers on their journey about New York State, sharing their adventures and *Chad Hanna's*. There is love interest, fighting, and a reconstruction of the speech and manners of the times, plus circus lore and circus history. And it is interesting, if only for its account of an early period of one of America's most beloved institutions.

RALPH ELLISON.

FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD, by Frances Gaither. Published by The Macmillan Co.; 270 pages; $2.50.

HERE IS A BOOK ABOUT SLAVERY FROM A NEW ANGLE It goes off the beaten path and brings to life a group of slaves who were forced to leave the master they adored, and learn a new kind of life under the rule of an overseer. It is a stark, bleak, grim sort of a story. It is without romance except the love affairs of the slaves; it is certainly without moonlight, magnolia blossoms, honeysuckle and white-columned mansions.

The land in Hickory Vale, Ga., where "Mas John" and his slaves lived, worked and were happy, was failing to produce. "Mas John" had to either sell some of his slaves, who were friends to him, or he had to buy new land for them to work. The new land was in Alabama, and to this wilderness "Mas John" sent 39 slaves, being careful not to separate families.

This steady chronicle of the growth and decay of a plantation with its series of tribulations, which includes a cholera epidemic, is a careful recreation of a patch of American life. It is a glimpse of a few years of Negro frustration, with white men wrestling with the chaos which this frustration produced. It is all this plus white men fighting each other for material gains, and fighting together to prevent their combined ruin which the slowly evolving new order threatened to bring about.

Books Published Today

DICTIONARY OF THE AMERICAN HIERARCHY, by the Rev. Joseph Bernard Code. (Longmans, Green, $3.75.)

SHE'S OFF TO COLLEGE, by Gulielma Fell Alsop and Mary F. McBride. (Vanguard, $2.50.) A "preview" of college life.

STARS ON THE SEA, by F. van Wyck Mason. (Lippincott, $2.75.) A companion novel to the author's "Three Harbours" that deals with the Revolution as it affected the people of the maritime colonies. The years 1776-77 are covered.

THE NEGRO IN CONGRESS, 1870-1901, by Samuel Denny Smith. (University of North Carolina Press, $2.50.) A survey of the careers of twenty-two Negroes who have served in Congress and an evaluation of their achievements.

YOUR MARRIAGE: A GUIDE TO HAPPINESS, by Norman E. Hines. (Farrar & Rinehart, $3.75.) The author is Professor of Sociology at Colgate University.

Dr. J. F. Ragland Verse Book Out

LAWRENCEVILLE, Va. — Dr. J. Farley Ragland, whose writings in verse are being widely acclaimed, has recently published a volume of contemporary verse called "The Home Town Sketch Book." The book deals mostly with current local happenings cleverly sketched in variegated poetical forms. There are included in book commendatory statements from town officials appreciative of Dr. Raglands unusual literary talents.

Dr. Ragland

The foreword is by Peter Stapleton Ridley, dean of St. Paul School. The book carries brief statements from Principal J. Alvin Russell, of St. Paul School; Major William J. Whitehead, dean of men; Miss Evelyn E. Holt, matron; A. H. Turner, business manager; H. Leslie Giles, director of the high school, and Dr. Clifton F. Nelson, school physician.

New CIO Pamphlet Hits AFL Jim Crow

WASHINGTON — (CNA) — Full rights for all members and absolute lack of discrimination and exclusion against workers on grounds of race or color are one basic reason for the success of the CIO, a new pamphlet, "CIO and the Negro Worker," issued by that organization declares.

The pamphlet starts with the first objective as stated in the CIO constitution, to organize "regardless of race, creed, color or nationality," and shows how the failure of AFL craft unions to organize industrial workers as well as to their policy of splitting them into small, ineffective crafts.

Revised Edition Of Vocational Guidance Bibliography Ready

A revised edition of the National Urban League's Vocational Guidance Bibliography has just been issued by the League's Department of Industrial Relations. This bibliography contains selected titles of publications dealing with vocational and educational guidance.

The only listing of its kind ever issued for the specific use of Negro groups; this bibliography has for many years proved an invaluable aid to the teacher, counselor, social worker, placement and employment interviewer, as well as to the student. Compiled by Miss Ann Tanneyhill, it is now in its ninth edition.

The bibliography is divided into 3 sections. Section I is designed for counselors, and teachers who may be guiding and assisting others in choosing and preparing for vocations. Section II is primarily for young people who seek information on vocations and careers. Section III lists titles of publications and articles dealing particularly with the problems faced by Negroes in securing education and training for vocations.

The Bibliography is issued annually by the National Urban League in the hope that it will be a helpful aid to all persons interested in assisting and advancing the economic status and occupational opportunities of young Americans.

POLISH 'BLACK BOOK' BEING ISSUED HERE

First Installment Out Tomorrow, Kosciusko Day at Fair

A Polish "Black Book," described as a compilation of "the horrors of the German occupation of Poland," will appear serially in The Monthly Future, a publication, it was announced yesterday by the Polish World News Service Company, 41 West Twenty-third Street, when the Ladies of Charity presented $800 to the Paderewski Fund for Polish Relief at a workers' committee meeting held by the organization at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria.

The first installment of the "Black Book" will be in the June issue of The Monthly Future, which will be made available to the public at the World's Fair tomorrow during the Kosciusko Day celebration. The material, said to consist of official pictures and eyewitness stories, was supplied by the Polish Government, in exile in France, to the Polish Information Center, attached to the Polish Consulate, 149 East Sixty-seventh Street.

Lady Margaret Armstrong, president of the Ladies of Charity, handed to Colonel William J. Donovan, president of the Paderewski Fund for Polish Relief, ten $80 gift units in tribute to Paderewski's eightieth birthday, for the observance of which next November plans are now being made.

A celebrity cocktail party was held yesterday in the River Club, 447 East Fifty-second Street, for the benefit of the Bundles for Britain Fund. This organization, of which Mrs. Wales Latham is president, was founded by Americans wishing to supply bundles of sweaters, knitted helmets, woolen gloves and socks for British sailors and airmen.

A program presented from 5 until 8 P. M. included troubadours in costume who sang English ballads and there was an auction of articles donated by New York merchants as well as patrons and patronesses of the benefit. The guests of honor included Gertrude Lawrence, Vivien Leigh, Laurence Olivier, Flora Robson, Richard Haydn, John Buckmaster and Leslie Brockhurst, English portrait painter.

ILLINOIS WRITER'S PROJECT EXHIBIT ON PUBLIC DISPLAY

The results of four and a half years' work and continuing operations of the Illinois Writers' Project of the WPA are on public display May 23, 24 and 25.

In connection with a nationwide observance of "Arts' Work Pays Your Community" Week, intended to educate the public as to what the so-called "white collar" WPA projects are doing, there will be open houses at the state headquarters of the Writers' Project at 433 E. Erie St., and at the headquarters of the Voluntary Associations Project, a co-operating group, 1249 S. Wabash Avenue.

The public will be shown the Erie Street headquarters by guides from 1 to 10 p. m. Thursday and Friday, when the hours will be from 1 to 5 p. m. Open house hours at the Voluntary Association headquarters will be as follows: 12:30 p. m. to 9 p. m. except Thursday and Friday, when the hours will be from 8:30 a. m. to 4 p. m.

Exhibits will include the Illinois Guide Book, a volume in the American Guide series, including a step-by-step demonstration of how approxmately 500 writers participated in its production; local guides for several Illinois cities, including Cairo, Nauvoo, Galena, Princeton and Hillsboro; approximately 100 booklets in a Modern Recreation series being written for the Chicago Park District; a history of baseball in old Chicago; four volumes of the Annals of Labor and Industry in Illinois; and other publications.

The independent work of scores of writers who have been connected with the project since its inception in November, 1935, will be on display. Most recent project writer to win outstanding success is Richard Wright, whose "Native Son" is still a best seller.

At present the Illinois Writers' Project supplies 375 newspapers which requested it with a weekly ... service related to Illinois history prepares radio scripts for the "Legends of Illinois" program (WAAF), "Postal Oddities," (WCFL), and the Art Institute Series (WGN), and additional programs will be broadcast in the near future; and is engaged in numerous research studies which will lead to the publication of books. Among these studies are fol owing:

A History of Civil Liberties in Illinois, sponsored by the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, the Illinois Fact Book, a concise handbook of information; Annals of Sport, Agriculture, etc., a History of Aviation; Histories of various racial groups; many additions to the local guide and history series. This prospective work includes a study of the Negro people of Chicago and Illinois, their music, press, cults, etc., and in connection with the forthcoming Afro-American Exposition, a history of the Negro in America.

The Illinois Writers' Project does editorial work for tax-supported and non-profit making institutions. Its research workers and writers have contributed to the preservation of many aspects of American culture which otherwise might have been lost. Since November, 1935, it has employed approximately 1500 persons. State Director is Dr. Curtis D. McDougall, lecturer in journalism at the Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University.

Negro Sociologist Seeks 'Sore Spots' In American Life

IN A MINOR KEY, a study prepared for the American Youth Commission by Ira De A Reid, American Council on Education, 135-pages —$1.25.

How serious is the American negro youth problem?

To define the dimensions of the problem and its implications, the American Youth Commission selected a negro, Ira De A. Reid, professor of sociology at Atlanta University. Hence, IN A MINOR KEY is an "inside story." Yet the author's lack of rancor, his preference for understatement, and his objective approach to the negro problem almost lead one to forget he is writing about his own people.

IN A MINOR KEY is the introductory volume of a series of research studies into the negro youth problem now being conducted by the American Youth Commission, of which Owen D. Young is chairman and Floyd W. Reeves is director. It defines the problem in general, and implies the question, "What are we going to do about it?" Forthcoming studies will suggest specific phases of the problem for which answers must be found.

"Being a negro in the United States is sometimes an estate of which one can be justly proud; at other times it is a thing apart from all that is good and desirable in a democratic society," says Prof. Reid at the outset. Then, taking one phase of life to a chapter he proceeds to show that the second part of his sentence far outweighs the first, and that the cards are neatly stacked against America's 12,000,000 negroes—black, brown, yellow, and white—from the cradle to the grave.

The writer's method of treating the negro youth problem, sector by sector, is simple but effective. Each chapter falls into two parts, "The Story" and "The Facts," the first presenting a vivid summary of a large area of human experience—birth and death, health and disease, the home, the school, and the like—and the second buttressing the story with the facts. In short, IN A MINOR KEY is the boiled-down essence of many studies and many statistics, selected by a negro sociologist who puts his finger on sore spots of American life.

Negro youth, the author feels, are not unlike other American youth who start out with ambitions and hopes and face frustration and defeat, but race "throws its shadow across every phase of the negro youth's life in the North and envelops every aspect of it in the South."—T.

DuBose Heyward

DuBose Heyward belied a number of traditions of the American literary scene. He did not begin his literary career until his late thirties. He wrote as a South Carolinian about Negro life and in Negro dialect so well, so warmly and so sympathetically that he received praise from Negroes as well as from whites. He was a passionate South Carolinian, related to many distinguished people of Charleston, but he refused to succumb to the prevalent local habit of assuming that culture in America died in 1865 without ever having reached beyond a radius of thirty miles from Charleston.

Not that Mr. Heyward ignored Charleston and the "War." His novel, "Peter Ashley" fulfilled the tradition that all good Charlestonians must pay homage to Charleston. But his interests ranged farther afield, and his gift of understanding was broader. In the end his success was assured with "Porgy." The appeal which this dramatization of the Negro spirit made was so great that he collaborated with the late George Gershwin to make the story into an opera. The critics received "Porgy and Bess" with praise, but it is doubtful if, as the years pass, this will be so long remembered as the play which was based on the original rather slender volume of the same name.

Because Heyward wrote of the places and people he knew and loved he made them real. To all would-be writers he preached the always unpopular doctrine of writing about life near at hand instead of rushing off to New York or Europe, or seeking refuge in remote romanticism. Because he followed his own preaching successfully he made himself into a national figure in literature. His death is a loss for American letters.—N. Y. Herald Tribune.

Reconstruction

THE NEGRO IN CONGRESS, 1870-1901, *by Samuel D. Smith. University of North Carolina Press. $2.50.*

HAD Dr. Smith condensed this book into one large factual table presenting his data under such heads as name, dates of birth and death, occupation, terms in office, bills introduced or favored, and bills opposed, the reader would have had in handy form those things of positive value which the work has to offer.

As it is, however, the author presents interpretations and passes judgments which are uniformly in line with those of the bourbon school of mythologists, stemming, in the case of the Reconstruction period, from the work of the late Professor Dunning and his disciples. Indeed, one of the latter, Professor Hamilton, writes the preface in which the work's tone is set by the assertion that "intelligent and informed people" no longer defend radical Reconstruction.

Similarly, when the Negro congressmen advocate civil rights, an extension of the suffrage and of educational opportunities, the end of debt slavery, the granting of public relief, the outlawry of lynching, and the enforcement of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution, they are being "partisan" (pp. 23, 47, 74), or are being "vindictive" toward, or attempting to "humiliate" the South (pp. 17, 49). When the Negro congressman from North Carolina, Mr. G. H. White, states the facts that rape and accusations of rape are rarely even the avowed causes of lynchings and that the violation of Negro women by white men is common, he is dismissed as being "offensive" (p. 128). When the oligarchic terror succeeds in ending civil rights, disfranchising the masses, and establishing peonage, Dr. Smith tells us that these acts represent the restoration of "home rule" (p. 90), as personified no doubt by the pompous puppets Bilbo, Dies, George, Cox, Reynolds, et al.

The era of Reconstruction is one of the most interesting and important in the life of the South and a basic study of that period must start with the articles and books of DuBois, Gottlieb, and Allen, not one of whom, incidentally, is so much as mentioned by Dr. Smith.

HERBERT APTHEKER.

Bibliography- 1940

USHA ISSUES PHAMPHLET ON RACE HOUSING

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Participation of the Negro in the Government's public housing program is recounted in an 8-page leaflet recently issued by the United States Housing Authority. The leaflet, entitled Public Housing and the Negro, sets forth the urgent need for better housing among Negroes and summarizes the work of the USHA in meeting this need.

Not only is the program providing new homes for thousands of low-income families who heretofore have been unable to obtain decent, safe and sanitary dwellings, but also it is creating job opportunities in construction work and in white collar positions needed in the development and management of the projects, the leaflet asserts.

The social and economic gains which the public housing program has brought to low-income families are indicated. The leaflet further sets forth the importance of the program to the Negro as tenant, worker and citizen.

"The public housing program has meant much more to the Negro that a means for obtaining a decent, safe and sanitary home," the bulletin asserts. "It has recognized him as an integral part of the American people. It has included him in the development of its policies. It has opened the door of employment to the Negro in a variety of occupations—professional, skilled and clerical. It has afforded him an opportunity to share in the Nation's better housing program."

Continuing, it declares: "The availability of additional funds will make it possible for the public housing program to expand in urban centers and to be extended to the rural areas where the majority of Negroes still live. Such expansion of the program would make possible the continued march of thousands of Negro families out of dreary slums into decent homes and would initiate the movement of other thousands out of unsightly farm shacks into new houses designed to meet the housing needs of rural families."

Public Housing and the Negro is one of a series of leaflets on various phases of the USHA program. Copies may be obtained by requesting them from the Informational Service Division United States Housing Authority Federal Works Agency, Washington, D. C.

New Facts About Confederacy Are Brought To Light

FOREIGNERS IN THE CONFEDERACY, by Ella Loon. Published by the University of North Carolina Press; 566 pages, $5.

THE FACTS PUBLISHED IN THIS BOOK will be, as the author says in the beginning of the volume, rather surprising. As a matter of full truth, these facts will be more than surprising; they will be startling. And to some — those who want their Confederacy to have been lily white—they will be annoying.

Only a short time ago a book was published—"Statesmen of the Lost Cause"—that proved that the Confederate president and his cabinet were hardly of the bluest blood. Now comes a book which proves that the rank and file of the Confederacy were by no means all Southern born and bred, a book which proves, indeed, that any number of the Confederate troops were foreigners. "There were whole companies of Germans; whole regiments of Irish; solid companies of Italians, of French, of Poles, and of Mexicans."

The very opening of Dr. Loon's book will make the insistent Southern purist very unhappy; "Probably no impression has been more deeply cherished by the population living south of Mason and Dixon's line and none more widely accepted by those who dwell north of that line than that which affirms that in the veins of the Southerners flowed the purest Anglo-Saxon blood in the New World and that their soil was freest from the tread of foreign races.

"Few Confederate veterans entertained any doubt that the Civil War resulted as it did because the meager ranks of the Confederates, consisting of native-born sons, were overwhelmed by hordes of European-born Federal soldiers and European mercenaries. The facts may prove surprising."

They are surprising. Indeed, they are almost incredible; but still they must be believed because the official records, taken from Confederate archives, are reprinted; these records cannot be questioned.

As a scholar, Dr. Loon wrote her book in a scholarly manner. She knew that these amazing facts needed full substantiation: she gives them in numerous footnotes. However, one should not be turned aside from reading the book merely because it is a fine example of scholarship. Not only the student, but the layman will find the volume filled with highly entertaining stories about these many foreigners who played their parts in the Confederacy, both in the actual fighting and behind the lines.—J. S. C.

BOOKS

WHY IS NOT THE NEGRO CATHOLIC?

(By Ellen Tarry in The Catholic World, February 1940)

Even though you have never given much thought to the Roman Catholic teachings, you will find this article, not only interesting but enlightening, tracing as it does the religious trends of our group.

Miss Tarry, who in herself Catholic, brings out the idea that our religiono in this country, has been influenced to a great extent by geography. For instance, in New England where the Congregational Church has a large following, there are many Negroes of that faith. In the early days the slaves were given the religious teaching of the masters. The reason most of the Negro Catholics live in the radius of Louisiana is that that section of the country was early settled by Latin nations whose religious was mostly Catholic.

RACE EMOTIONAL

Then too she believes that embracing the Catholic religion is quite a radical departure for the Negro who is highly emotional, as a rule his nature complies him to given vent to his feeling with sound and action-to "burst forth in praise."

She also believes that the fact that most priests are white has a lot to do with it. The experience of many Negroes during slavery was such as to destroy all confidence in white people. After they were free they preferred a spiritual leader of their own group. Tragic though it may be, sometimes, their confidence was misplaced here too.

Miss Tarry claims that Protestants attending Catholic boarding schools for any length of time are almost sure to come out Catholic. She says there are 35,026 Negroes enrolled in Catholic schools. She is sorry that of our population of thirteen million only three hundred thousand are Roman Catholic.

—By Louise Glass

A BOOK BANNED FROM THE LIBRARY

To the Editor The News:

In the March 17 issue of The Birmingham News the "Voice of the People" published a letter about the novel, "Native Son," by Richard Wright. The writer revealed the fact that this book will be banned from our Birmingham Library's shelves.

Such action is certainly in opposition to the desires of the public, as is apparent from the wide circulation this book is receiving at our local stores and throughout the country.

I agree with the writer that banning the novel, "Native Son" is an infringement on the right of free press.

I refer the Birmingham librarian to your editorial of the March 20 issue. I quote: "It is better to err on the side of too much freedom than too little." DORA TAYLOR.

Birmingham.

Article Published by Spelman Biologist

ATLANTA, Ga. — An investigation made at the Hull Zoological Laboratory of the University of Chicago by Miss Birdie L. Scott of the biology faculty of Spelman College has been published in the "Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine," a University of Chicago publication.

The study, called "Androgenic Effects from Percutaneous Administration in Castrate Rats," was directed by Dr. Carl R. Moore, and was aided by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation.

DuBOIS WRITES ANOTHER BOOK

ATLANTA, Ga., Mar. 14—Harcourt, Brace and Company have signed this month a contract with Dr. W. E. B. DuBois for the publication of his newest book "Dusk of Dawn," the autoblography of a Race Concept. This volume is an attempt to evaluate the race problem in the United States and its various changes in the light of the life of the author. It is thus partly biographical and partly sociological. It will be published in the early fall of 1940. This will be the twelfth bound volume of Dr. DuBois' writing. In addition to this he has collaborated in nine other volumes, has edited sixteen of the Atlanta University publications and 23 annual volumes of the Crisis, besides numerous contributions to periodicals.

Dean J. W. Gore's Doctorate Published

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 14.—Dr. G. W. Gore Jr., director of instruction, Tennessee A. and I. State college, was formally congratulated last week on the recent publication of his doctorate dissertation, "The Service Professional Improvement of Negro Public School Teachers in Tennessee," published by the Bureau of Publications, Teachers' college, Columbia university.

ISSUES BOOK ON NEGRO CONGRESS

RALEIGH, N. C.—(A N P)—A survey of the Negro in Congress from 1870 to 1901, made by Dr. Samuel D. Smith, associate professor of social studies at the Mississippi State College for Women, appeared this week having just been published.

2 H. U. Books Include Study of Nat'l Benefit

WASHINGTON.
(By ANP)

Two books, sponsored by the graduate school of Howard University, which are just off the press, are "The Collapse of the National Benefit Insurance Company," by James B. Mitchell, and "A Comparative Study of Religious Cult Behavior Among Negroes," by Raymond J. Jones.

Mr. Mitchell's book tells a story which was bandied back and forth in newspapers for eight or nine years. He presents the factors prior to the organization of the company and carries the history through to the final collapse.

QUEST FOR EQUALITY

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

By ROBERT S. ABBOTT

Founder, Chicago Defender

THIRD INSTALLMENT

WHEN THE EARTHQUAKE hit Savannah in 1887, the members of my father's church—Pilgrim Congregational—had been expecting it for a week or more for the slight tremors which had been occurring intermittently were dealt with at great lengths in the daily papers.

My father had explained to the people of his congregation the nature and cause of an earthquake so that they would be prepared to go through this experience without much emotional disturbance. As a result they were considerably more calm than the uninformed folk of the community when the quake did come. Those who were not expecting it and to whom this singular phenomenon was beyond comprehension, felt certain that their doom had come. Some screamed, prayed, others ran out crazily into the fields shooting their rifles in the air creating thereby greater confusion and fright. But the resolute calmness of others was an inspiring evidence of my father's influence in the community.

Taught People to Live

He had taught the people not only how to live in the fellowship with God, but how to live comfortably and intelligently under handicaps. It was largely through his social vision that five-room homes were built instead of the small one-room cabins in which large families lived. It was his influence that started the people reading in order to lift themselves into a high cultural sphere.

He was one of the dominating influences in my life. It was his teachings that gave me a lust for travel, that developed in me an avid desire to know more than just what appeared on the surface. He fed my cultural nature while my mother endowed with practical common sense, kept my feet on the ground.

No Definite Purpose

I entered Claflin university with as yet, no definite purpose in life save that of laying a foundation of a good education for whatever my field was to be. Here I had the rare privilege of being allowed in the senior cottages where I gathered a great deal of information which could not have been obtained had I not been a favorite of the upperclassmen. They liked me for my operatic tenor voice, and I was permitted to sing with them in their glee club.

While in the senior cottage I came in contact with two college men who, unbeknowing to them, influenced my decision to learn a trade. They were trying to work their way through school by selling books, because they felt that menial labor was unbefitting their station. Their circumstances were tragic. They would come into the cottages looking like tramps and only through the kindness of their schoolmates were they able to get suitable attire to attend classes. Their lot discouraged me, for I learned that these two men had not been trained to work with their hands and that they did not care to do anything that would soil their anything that would soil their hands. I was determined then that I should not fall into that category.

Entered Hampton

In 1890 I left Claflin and entered Hampton Institute, enrolled in the printer's trade. My life in this institution was one of hard work and study. General Armstrong, founder of Hampton, was president of the school at that time. and although I had little contact with him, I, as did every student, felt his influence. He lived in close contact with the student body and knew and handled their problems almost before they themselves were aware of their difficulties. He spoke humorously about Hampton graduates as "cats that he threw out of the window when they finished."

Hampton threw them out of the window, he would say, but they landed on their feet and if he ever looked for them again he was sure to find them in some southern counties teaching and otherwise making their way in life. "Look at Booker T. Washington," he would say, "When I looked for him I found him at Tuskegee, teaching just like I said."

Book Leaves

CHINS UP! by Mildred Seydell, Grosset and Dunlap, New York; $1.00.

CHINS UP! by Mildred Seydell, Atlanta newspaper woman, is a small volume of philosophical essays, or "short stories with long morals," as she herself describes them. Mrs. Seydell has been feature writer, columnist and world traveler for the past fifteen years. Her newspaper career began with the famous Scopes trial in Dayton in 1925, and since then she has interviewed important people and investigated conditions in many parts of the world. Her stories of Mussolini and other European bigwigs have appeared in leading magazines. The late Arthur Brisbane once said, "The desire of all human beings is to have their emotions interpreted for them. Mildred Seydell knows how to do that, for people of all kinds and classes."

CHINS UP! is the author's philosophy of life garnered from the adversity of the late 1920's. Her publishers point out that we in America should be more proud of the brave flowering of the American spirit after the collapse of our materialistic dream in 1929 than of all the victories won on the field of battle. The autnor of these brief essays desires sincerely to pass on to others her courage and her faith in the goodness of life as we know it in America.

Cast Down Your Buckets

The words of Booker T. Washington, "cast down your bucket where you are" is a philosophy long preached to us southerners yet, one that falls on so many deaf ears. Annually thousands of Negroes quit the south for the north and west in search of more bountiful living.

Gerald Robert E. Wood, chairman of the board of Sears Roebuck and Company, has recently published a volume, "The New Outlook in Business." Mr. Woods says if the south continues to attract industry, to hold its young people from migrating elsewhere and diversify its agriculture, it wil soon make the greatest gains of any section. This, alone, sohuld be noted by Negroes who, built the south's industry for years as slaves and years more as laborers and farmers.

Of significance is Mr. Wood's observation that "fourteen southern and border states, wtih approximately thirty per cent of the total population of the country are contributing about fifty per cent of na-ylercent liubtng oanitfbf adtfial,eh . . ajT nfawN N bxoe tional population growth. Contrary to popular impressions, the southern white is increasign at a much more rapid rate than the southern Negro." The white birth rate is increasing more rapidly in the south than the colored because so many colored people have deserted the south for the north. They have ignored the advice of "cast down your bucket where you are."

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Erskine Caldwell's New Novel of the Deep South

TROUBLE IN JULY. By Erskine Caldwell. 241 pp. New York: Duell, Sloan & Pearce. $2.50.

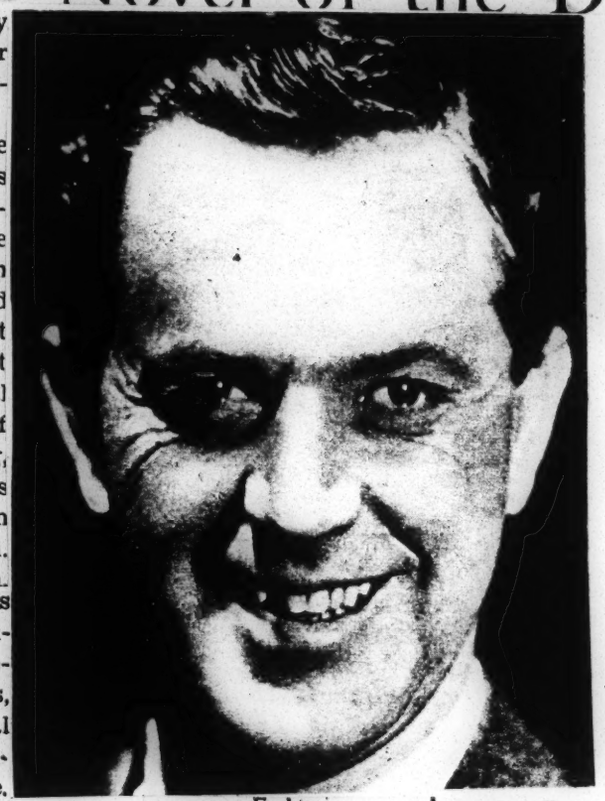
"TROUBLE IN JULY" is the first full-length novel that Erskine Caldwell has written in some seven years. One might well expect him, during this lengthy interval, to have developed new power and perhaps to have turned his gaze to new horizons. For Caldwell had clearly reached a crucial point in his career. He came to be that peculiar phenomenon, a novelist more talked about than read. To the public he is known chiefly as the author of the novel from which was made that play of astonishing longevity, "Tobacco Road." To the critics he has been—for ten years—a fresh and original American writer who, to quote only one of them, 'must be looked upon with immense hope." They, and this reviewer among them, have been saying what they said of Steinbeck when he published "Tortilla Flat," and for similar reasons: that Caldwell is on the verge of doing great things.

It is obviously useless to go on saying that, so we must face the depressing task of reporting that "Trouble in July" represents not only no further advancement in Caldwell's art but a definite falling off. All of his fine craftsmanship is still in evidence, all of his simplicity and clarity of style, his brilliant selectivity of detail and his understatement. He still has his ability to penetrate the strange, futile, and apparently self-destructive behavior of the submerged folk of the Deep South, and to reach into the very core of their being. But they are the same people, moving in the same patterns and motivated by the same forces about whom he has been writing for years. And besides, while most of his earlier books and stories have been about Negroes and impoverished sharecroppers, for whom Caldwell was able to move the reader to deep pity, "Trouble in July" is largely about a time-serving Sheriff for whom Caldwell himself shows little but contempt.

Jeff McCurtain, Sheriff of Julie County, Georgia, for eleven years had been regularly named for office by his political boss, Judge Ben Allen. Jeff was good enough at catching petty offenders and "niggers," and he was careful not to tread on the toes of important people. Whenever there was real trouble, such as a lynching, Jeff was sure to be away fishing, although all three hundred pounds of him loathed that occupation more than anything else on earth. He was a master at evasion. When, at the beginning of this novel, one of his deputies awakens him at midnight about "something important," Jeff mumbles, "That's the trouble with political life. Everything's important until you look it straight in the face. Once you look at it, it's pretty apt to turn out to be something that could have waited."

He thought that this lynching too could wait, could "be kept politically clean" by going fishing. But to his amazement his boss, Judge Allen, sent word that he was to stay on the job this time. There was a new political factor, a fanatic by the name of Mrs. Narcissa Calhoun, who was gathering signatures to send all the Negroes back to Africa. It was she who reported the offense of the cotton-chopper, Sonny Clark, against a white girl. Allen had his suspicions, and was looking to the political finish of Mrs Narcissa Calhoun.

He had, however, reckoned without the accumulated fat, mental and physical, of his sheriff. The last thing Jeff wanted to do was to snatch a runaway Negro from the grip of an aroused and drunken mob. So he looked his orders from Allen straight in the face and found they could wait. He had important business to do: he had to recover a harmless old Geechee Negro, Sam Brinson, who had been abducted from the jailhouse by a gang looking for



Erskine Caldwell.

Sonny Clark. Jeff found that he had developed quite an affection, quite a convenient affection, for Sam. Out of this situation Caldwell deftly extracts his usual mixture of satire, farce and tragedy, for the sheriff was hard put to avoid coming across Sonny while looking earnestly for Sam.

The criss-crossing of the two manhunts, the one farcical and the other tragic, produces a bitter comedy of errors. There are a few memorable passages, such as the one in which Sonny trots obediently at the heels of the man who is about to give him up for the crime he has not committed. In that passage Caldwell has his heart in his writing. But for the most part, because Jeff is a pretty unlovely central character, he hasn't. Why then the stress on Jeff? I can only guess that, having told and retold lynching stories from the viewpoint of the lynchers and the lynched, Caldwell may have written "Trouble in July" to tell us what the long arm of the law was doing all the while. Caldwell certainly has made that clear. But once we would have expected him to do it movingly and memorably.

HAROLD STRAUSS

NEGRO AUTHOR HONORED IN NATIONAL POLL

NEW YORK, Mar. 7—Richard Wright, the young Negro novelist who without the Works Projects Administration might still be doing manual labor, has been cited for "sheer merit of achievement in terms of social value to the race and humanity." This honor was bestowed by a nation-wide poll sponsored jointly by the Schomberg Collection of Negro literature and the New York branch of the Association of Negro Life and History.

Mr. Wright's rise has been rapid since the day three years ago when WPA officials in Chicago discovered him laboring on a construction project and transferred him to a writers' project. He won first prize in a contest conducted by Story Magazine for Writers' Project employees. Then he wrote a book, "Uncle Tom's Children," which received warm praise both in this country and abroad. About a year ago he received a $2,500 Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Award, and recently his second book, "Native Son," was selected by the Book-of-the-Month Club for distribution this spring.

Before obtaining WPA employment, the young author wandered from city to city in search of work. He read as often as circumstances would permit. In communities where Negroes were not allowed to borrow books from the public libraries he made the acquaintance of white men, who got books for him on their cards. In other communities he quietly observed and noted the life and types of persons by "just hanging around."

"Before I left home my grandmother despaired of trying to keep me from fighting, lying, stealing and playing hookey," he says. "My grandmother predicted I would end on the gallows, and an aunt attempted to bring me under the softening influence of religion without success. But I eventulaly began to read and learn and achieved reformation.

"The WPA job in Chicago gave me my first real opportunity to think things out, and to put my thoughts on paper."

Besides Novelist Wright, the nation-wide poll listed President and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia of New York, Mayor Maury Maverick of San Antonio, Texas; Dr. Frank P. Graham, president, University of North Carolina; Marian Anderson, singer; Justice Jane Bolin, New York Court of Domestic Relations; Dr. George W. Carver, scientist, Tuskegee Institute; Dr. E. Franklin Frazier, sociologist, Howard university; Sam Solomon, business man, Miami, Florida; the Rev. Glenn T. Settle, religious radio program director, Cleveland, Ohio; Dr. Carter G. Woodson, editor, Journal of Negro Life and History; the Rev. Owen Whitfield, farm labor leader, and Benny Goodman, popular band director.

From a Drawing by the Petershams for "The Story Book of Cotton."

Things We Wear

THE STORY BOOKS OF THINGS WE WEAR: WOOL COTTON; SILK; RAYON. By Maud and Miska Petersham Unpaged. Philadelphia: John C. Winston Company. 75 cents each.

The Petershams know how to invest the affairs of everyday with romance. They see things largely and against a historical background. Cotton and wool and silk are important clothing materials of today and modern spinning and weaving are fully and carefully described, but these author-illustrators show, too, the sheepfolds and shepherds of early times, ancient Egyptians in their woven garments, English weavers of the Middle Ages, and a maid of ancient Greece spinning wool, as they found her on a Greek vase of the fifth century, B. C. Thus, in pictures full of action and color, the scene changes, we follow the silkworm story from the little Chinese Empress of the legend down to modern silkworm culture. An unusually clear series of drawings of the silkworm's development is included.

A welcome feature of the series is the book on rayon, which tells in interesting fashion of artificial silk making, beginning with the experiments of Robert Hook and Reaumur and ending with an account of the modern manufacturing of rayon and its uses. This is a series for which teachers and librarians will be grateful and one which children from 8 to 12 can use and enjoy.

Story Tells Why Charleston Was Spared by Sherman

Clear Picture Given of Little-Known Events of the Civil War.

RED LANTERNS ON ST. MICHAELS, by Thornwell Jacobs. E. P Dutton & Co., New York. 670 pp. $2.50.

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Although the action in this book takes place in the 19th century, the story of Charleston from the earliest of Colonial times is unfolded through the memories and reminiscences of General Pierondeau Creston V, friend of Washington and LaFayette, and soldier of the Revolution. The story begins in a small town in western North Carolina, but the influence of Charleston is felt from the start, for all the streets of his new home are named after those of the General's native city. To him the heroes of the Revolution were not Washington and LaFayette, but Gadsden, Pinckney and Rutledge, the three Charlestonians who, in his opinion, "lit the fires of liberty," as well as laying the foundations for the Union.

The story itself deals with a young boy called Perry Poer White, of unknown origin and no opportunities. Through a childhood incident which shows his courage and intelligence, the General's interest in Perry is awakened, and the orphan boy is taken from his witch-like guardian to become an adopted member of the General's family, and to be educated in the ways of a gentleman. Thus the lad's secret ideal is realized, and he is able to fulfill his ambition. After a number of years of southern plantation life and an intensive training in many lines, Perry is sent to Charleston to become a newspaper reporter just at the beginning of the fateful Democratic convention of 1860. From then on Charleston seethes with excitement, and Perry's adventures, romantic and otherwise, are enacted against a background of historic events. He is present at the second Charleston convention which split the Union and founded the Confederacy; he is there at the firing of the first shot at Fort Sumter; he it is who is responsible for "engines of war that . . . should revolutionize naval warfare;" he is a member of the crew of the famous "Little David," combination submarine and torpedo-boat of the Confederacy; he it is who secures the key to the federal code, and prevents the downfall of Charleston.

DR. THORNWELL JACOBS.
President of Oglethorpe University and author of "Red Lantern on St. Michael's."

During the intervals of all this, Perry finds time for the moonlight dances at Fort Sumter, and the courtship of two very different girls. Helen Creston, the general's granddaughter, his childhood ideal, and the original cause of his desire to become a "gentleman," is the epitome of all that is sweet and innocent. Joan Brooks, who is visiting relatives in Charleston, is the daughter of a Yankee officer, and noted for her beauty, intelligence and charm. The influence of both girls plays an important part in Perry's life, and his solution of this tangle is an interesting story in itself.

In spite of the fact that the author's journeys through the streets of Charleston might amaze a native by their indirect routes, this book is well worth reading. It gives a clear picture of many little known events of the Civil War, and the reason that Charleston was spared by Sherman in spite of the contrary desires of his soldiers, and the orders of his superiors. Amidst the scenes of death and destruction, Perry Poer White learns his real identy, and resolves to rebuild a civilization that has ended.

MURDOCK WALKER.

BIBLIOGRAPHY [1940?]

1st Monographs On Study Of Chicago Negro Released

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Horace R. Cayton, fellow of the Julius Rosenwald fund, and director of the Good Shepherd Community center last week announced for a sponsor the release of two monographs of a series which is in preparation on the study of the Negro community in Chicago. 1-6-40

The large study of the Negro community of which these monographs are a part was started in November, 1936, under the direction of W. Lloyd Warner of the University of Chicago, and Horace R. Cayton of the Works Progress Administration to study cultural and social factors surrounding the problems of juvenile delinquency of the Negro in Chicago. The study was financed and completely staffed through the WPA; and was sponsored by the Institute for Juvenile Research. After the project had been carried on for some months, it was decided that the situation presented an excellent series of research projects dealing with various phases of the community life was subsequently inaugurated. The present two reports are part of this larger study.

The first monograph is by Mary Elaine Ogden entitled "The Chicago Negro Community: Statistical Description." In this work is presented a compilation of some of the most important basic data which was gathered on the study, in a form which would be helpful to workers in the practical field, as well as to other research students. It includes statistical data concerning the entire Negro community, and a comparison of the Negro community to other districts throughout the city. Miss Ogden recently received her master's degree from the University of Chicago and was written up in Time Magazine because of the unusualness of the subject, "The Social Orientation of the Society Girl" which she used for her thesis.

The second volume is entitled "Occupational charges in the Negro Community" by Estelle Hill Scott. This study describes in detail the changing occupational structure of the Negro community from 1890 to 1930. Through this census material the struggle of the Negro for a place in the economic structure of the city is reflected. Mrs. Scott received her master's degree from the University of Chicago and has been a research assistant to Dr. Charles S. Johnson of Fisk University and Dr. William Osburn of the University of Chicago.

Mr. Cayton announced that two other monographs will be released in the future: "Association and Churches in the Negro Community of Chicago by St. Claire Drake and "Migration and Mobility" Elizabeth Dewey Jones.

These monograms describe various among Negroes in Chicago" by ous section of the Negro community and will constitute one of the greatest bodies of data ever gathered by a Negro community in any city. From these individual reports a general synthesizing in any race. From these monographs reports a general synthesizing statement will be written. Steps are being taken to keep the materials in such shape that it will be available to students and persons in the practical field. One important development which has justified in a way the entire study has been the formation of the Good Shepherd Community Center. Taking the factual life the board of directors of the Good Shepherd Community center was inspired to obtain approximately $70,000 for the construction of the Center, and has been guided in its entire program by the findings of the study.

A limited number of the monographs are available at 50c a copy to cover handling and mailing cost Requests should be mailed to Horace R. Cayton, Good Shepherd Community center, 5700 Prairie Avenue, Chicago Ill.

Louisiana History.

ORIGINS OF CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISIANA. By Roger Wallace Shugg. Louisiana State University Press. 372 pp. $3.50.

1-7-40

The title is somewhat misleading. One expects another social treatise laid along lines of class warfare, with the Marxian imponderables once again stated with missionary fervor and a total abandonment of all orthodox economics. Last, but not least an atmosphere of impenetrable gloom.

But such a conception fails by a wide margin in doing justice to this restrained, scholarly history of Louisiana during the years 1840-75. The author, at present assistant professor of history at Princeton, shares the viewpoint (the somewhat impatient viewpoint, let it be said) of an orderly northern mind dealing with the lackadaisical ante-bellum economics of the south. But he is not prejudiced, nor yet indignant. He states with considerable emphasis, and exhibits sufficient factual material to prove his point, that the state which has been thought of as the premier plantation region of the Old South, was in effect the feudal property of a not very numerous land-owning class that imposed its will through a constant and consistent appeal to sectional race prejudice. Had he done no more than that, his work, though it is, would have been of small importance, for this conclusion, uncomfortable though it may be to later generations, has been pretty well conceded already. But the major value of this work lies in its investigation of various little-known aspects of Louisiana history—the involved process of land settlement, the gradual "freezing out" of small proprietors (a process now having its modern counterpart in regions far removed from Louisiana); the part played by the heavy immigration into New Orleans, and the influx of new industries. His language is exact, but easy to follow. Though somewhat overburdened with footnotes, the text is of unusual value to those interested in southern economic history.

OLE H. LEXAU.

Dr. John West's Pamphlet Ready For Distribution

With the new year the Central Harlem Health Center of the Department of Health of New York City and the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee of the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association are greeting the public with a 24-page pamphlet prepared by Dr. John B. West, district health officer, for the joint health education program of the two organizations.

Editorial and advisory assistance was given by staff members of the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee, the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association, and the Department of Health. The cover was done by an NYA worker, Robert Blackburn, who is given credit on the title page. The cost of printing the leaflet was met by the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association from a grant by the Greater New York Fund.

The pamphlet is intended for adults and will be given to those visiting the Central Harlem Health Center. Copies are being offered to physicians for use in private offices and to community agencies. Individuals may obtain copies on direct request to the district Health Officer of the Central Harlem Health Center of the Department of Health, New York City, 2238 Fifth avenue.

Fact Giver

J. A. ROGERS, author whose book "100 Amazing Facts About the Negro," was one of 1939's big features.

BOOKLET ON MAID SERVICE WILL HELP SERVANT, EMPLOYER

When your maid doesn't show enough initiafive, can't get things organized, and doesn't manage to do the work you think you have a right to expect of her, present her with a copy of our little booklet, "Maid Service for the Average Household" [5 cents, 7 cents postpaid]. Studying this booklet will help a girl put some system into her work and make her more valuable. That in turn will improve her earning power.

If you employ domestic help, or if you yourself are a domestic, write for a copy of the booklet by addressing your request to Helen Bartlett, Etiquet Editor, CHICAGO TRIBUNE. Remember, 5 cents, 7 cents postpaid.

In addition to organization tips there are pages on table setting and serving which are among the most punctilious tasks exacted of a maid.

Newport News, Va. Press
January 5, 1940

HISTORY OF NEGRO OFF PRESS SOON

500-Page Volume, Sponsored By Howe Under WPA, Deals With Race in Virginia

Publication of a 500-page volume "The Negro in Virginia," a works-progress administration literary project sponsored by Dr. Arthur Howe president of Hampton institute, will take place shortly, according to the Virginia writers' project of the WPA The volume contains a history of the Negro in Virginia from the time the first slaves were brought to Jamestown island in 1619 to the present day.

Material for the book was assembled by a group of Negro workers under the supervision of Roscoe E. Lewis. Final editing was done at the Richmond headquarters of the Virginia writers' under the direction of Eudora Ramsay Richardson, State supervisor.

An initial order for 1,600 copies of the work already has been placed by the board of Hampton institute and co-operating sponsors.

All royalties will be deposited with the treasurer of the Commonwealth of Virginia and ear-marked for future use in the writing and publication of educational works regarding the Negro race.

Kroll's Novel Of Old Mississippi Life Considered His Best—Very Realistic

THE KEEPERS OF THE HOUSE. By Harry Harrison Kroll. Bobbs-Merrill. $2.50.

The author is the closest friend I have among the literati, but even if he were an enemy I think I should still be honest enough to say that he has written his best novel to date. It portrays a phase of ante bellum Southern life which has had but scant recognition. Heretofore too many Southern novelists belonged to the magnolia-mocking bird, nightingale yes massa school of fiction. They were unable to see anything on the ante bellum landscape except the cultured planter and the young lords and ladies of the white-pillared mansions. They forgot that the majority of Southerners did not own slaves, that Southern population was largely made up of the very plebeian Scotch-Irish who at one time constituted nearly half of the South's inhabitants, that there were in the Southern Colonies prior to the Revolution over 50,000 white indentured servants and political and criminal exiles. So far as one can learn from the nightingale yes massa novelists, all of this vast multitude died without issue, leaving only two classes in the South—aristocrats and slaves. Of late a number of writers have made pen-punctures toward the long-needed deflating of this pretty balloon of a strictly two-class society in the ante bellum South, and now Harry Kroll, in Keepers of the House, makes a puncture with an ice pick.

Bart Dowell, his wife, Rachel, his overseer, Simon Capers, his wife, Lucretia, and a number of slaves came from Virginia by wagon train down through the Carolinas, across Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, and settled on the Mississippi River near Vicksburg. Bart built his house on an Indian mound and named his plantation Mound Vista. Here his son Lett by his overseer's wife was born about the same time that his wife bore her son Barty in a friend's fine house in Natchez. The story revolves around the outcast and rebel Lett whose captivating personality is warped by the contempt of the children of the "big house"—Barty and Rosalie—whose substance and station he could not share, though he was their half brother.

Lett loved Rosalie as much as he hated Barty, and dreamed of lifting himself to her social level by owning slaves. To this day many Southerners base their claims to aristocracy on the slave-holding of their ancestors, forgetful of the fact that slaves were owned by negroes, Indians and the trashiest sort of whites. Yet, in my genealogical work, I have had clients rejoice over the uncovering of evidence that their ancestors were slave-owners, as much as if I had proved their descent from a long line of kings.

Simon Capers connived with Northern promoters of an uprising among the slaves and Lett revealed it, to the disappearance of his supposed father. Then came the war, the background and execution of which are sketched rather than painted. Mr. Kroll suggests much more than he states. He does not insult the intelligence by sketching a member of the feline tribe and then writing underneath "this is a cat." There are lights and shadows on the siege of Vicksburg which are memorable. It was at Vicksburg that Lett shot his real father and with consuming hatred watched him die. And then, so complex was his character, he went out under the stars and wept.

The story ends with Lett back at fire-gutted Mound Vista where he had suffered all the humiliation and pain that a soul can know. But now the bottom rail is on top of the fence, and the new order is beginning its tortuous way up the years. If this book is cinematized, as it should be, the silver screen will reveal a phase of Southern life which has been all too often glossed over because of the pain and chagrin of facing it.

MARSHALL WINGFIELD.

Harry Harrison Kroll is shown with his son, Dan, at their home in Martin, Tenn. His new novel, whose hero is acclaimed as the "American Heathcliff," is reviewed here.

Former WPA Laborer Honored As Novelist

NEW YORK—(S N S)—Richard Wright, the young Negro novelist who without the Works Project Administration might still be doing manual labor, has been cited for "sheer merit of achievement in terms of social value to the Race and humanity."

This honor was bestowed by a nation-wide poll sponsored jointly by the Schomburg Collection of Negro Literature and the New York branch of the Association of Negro Life and History.

Mr. Wright's rise has been rapid since the day three years ago when WPA officials in Chicago discovered him laboring on a construction project and transferred him to a writers' project. He won first prize in a contest conducted by Story Magazine for Writers' Project employees.

RECEIVES AWARD

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WPA GAVE AID

"Before I left home my grandmother despaired of trying to keep me from fighting, lying, stealing and playing hookey," he says. "My grandmother predicted I would end up on the gallows, and an aunt attempted to bring me under the softening influence of religion without success. But I eventually began to read and learn, and achieved reformation.

"The WPA job in Chicago gave me my first real opportunity to think things out and to put my thoughts on paper."

Besides Novelist Wright, the nation-wide poll listed President and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia of New York, Mayor Maury Maverick of San Antonio, Texas; Dr. Frank P. Graham, president, University of North Carolina; Marian Anderson, singer; Justice Jane Bolin, New York Court of Domestic Relations; Dr. George W. Carver, scientist, Tuskegee Institute; Dr. E. Franklin Frazier, sociologist, Howard University; Sam Solomon, business man, Miami, Florida; the Rev. Glenn T. Settle, religious radio program director, Cleveland, Ohio; Dr. Carter G. Woodson, editor Journal of Negro Life and History; the Rev. Owen Whitfield, farm labor leader, and Benny Goodman, popular band director.

EDITOR

MISS CORA O. FANT, director of the Campaign Office, Tuskegee Institute, who has just published the Pictorial Edition of the Tuskegee Institute Bulletin.

BIBLIOGRAPHY -1940

The City Where North and South Are Blended

CINCINNATI: Story of the Queen City. By Clara Longworth de Chambrun. Illustrated. 342 pp. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. $3.75.

By RICHARD WHITE

THE Countess de Chambrun has written an absorbing and timely history of Cincinnati that deserves to be widely read far beyond the city's boundaries. For Cincinnati is an excellent example of the genuine American spirit, being geographically neither Northern nor Southern but spiritually an almost perfect blending of the two. And no less remarkable is the harmony between those whose ancestors came from the British Isles and those who came from the Continent of Europe. This ability to assimilate the best elements from each race and region has given Cincinnati a character and charm that are at once distinctly its own and typically American.

It would be difficult to imagine a writer more qualified to interpret the social and political life of Cincinnati than the Countess de Chambrun. As a member of the Longworth family, one of Cincinnati's pioneer families, and as the result of her long friendship with many of the most notable citizens, she has had access to many valuable documents and rare old prints and photographs. With this abundance of material she has recorded the history of her native city from its founding, a century and a half ago to the present day.

The history of Cincinnati commences a few years after the American Revolution. The foresight and military genius of George Rogers Clark had won for the United States the wide domain stretching from the Great Lakes to the Ohio River—"La Belle Rivière" as the early French explorers had rightly named it. This virgin territory attracted great numbers of adventurous pioneers from New England and the Middle Atlantic States. In 1788 or 1789—the exact date is in dispute—a small group of pioneers made a settlement on a "most delightful high bank of the Ohio." At first they gave their town the strangely compounded name of Losantiville, but in 1790 they changed it to Cincinnati, in honor of the newly established military order of that name.

The growth of Cincinnati was amazingly rapid and steady. In a few decades it grew from a small frontier settlement into a busy metropolis which proudly, and justly, claimed for itself the title of "Queen City of the West." Its geographical location gave it a commanding advantage in trading between Pittsburgh and New Orleans. Flatboats, steamboats and railway trains in turn advanced Cincinnati to an unusually high degree of prosperity. The city reached the height of its power in the years immediately preceding the Civil War.

Though the war itself was not the direct cause, it marks the decline of Cincinnati's pre-eminence in the West. The steady westward migration and the rapid rise of other cities contributed most to alter the situation. But nothing has lessened Cincinnati's intrinsic worth. Neither floods on the Ohio nor panics throughout the country have been able to curb the spirit of Cincinnati. Not even a dreary era of misrule, when both parties pillaged the city's resources unmercifully, could break that spirit. In November, 1924, a group of fifty young business and professional men destroyed the power of the corrupt politicians by their campaign of enlightenment. This was one of the most satisfying reversals of situation in contemporary American politics. Under the City Manager plan of government Cincinnati has been transformed in little more than a decade from one of the worst governed cities in America into one of the best governed.

If the Countess has given considerable space to the society and politics of her native city, it is only natural that she should do so. She has known some of the most able and outstanding citizens, whose names have made history nationally as well as locally. She lingers lovingly over the pleasant days at the turn of the century when habits were more leisurely and manners more gracious than they are today. Nor has she neglected the artistic side of Cincinnati's life; she has devoted several chapters to music, art, literature and the drama. These are admirably illustrated with reproductions of old prints and photographs. There is a long list of the celebrated artists and actors who have visited the city. It comes as a slight surprise not to find among their number the names of Stephen Collins Foster and Lafcadio Heam.

These instances aside, the Countess has given a thorough study of the intellectual life of Cincinnati. She has given a faithful interpretation of the city's spirit, its spirit of enterprise and tolerance and courage. It is this spirit that has made Cincinnati deserve the consideration of every student of American art and society and politics.

'Dusk Of Dawn,' DuBois' New Book, To Publishers

ATLANTA, Ga., March 15—Harcourt, Brace and company has recently signed a contract with Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois for the publication of his newest book, "Dusk of Dawn," it was learned this week.

This volume is an attempt to evaluate the race problem in the United States, and its various changes in the light of the life of the author. It is thus partly biographical and partly sociological. It will be published in the early fall of 1940. This will be the 12th bound volume of Dr. Du Bois' writing.

WRITING UP THE NEWS, edited by Miriam Lundy. Published by Dodd, Mead & Co.; 254 pages, $2.50.

For years the New York Newspaper Women's Club was a gathering place for editors, reporters, feature writers and columnists, "where the little stories behind the big stories of the day were told." No one thought of how interested the general public would be in these inside stories about how the news of the day was gathered and written, until some one had a brain wave and a series of lectures was announced.

Inevitably they were a great success, because in the words of Lee B. Wood, executive editor of The New York World-Telegram, explains how news is developed and what it takes to make a good reporter. Joe Williams tells how the sports writers cover a big game. Burns Mantle has something to say about dramatic criticism.

Antoinette Donnelley tells about the lady who runs the Love Lorn Column and how there are both tears and laughter in the job. Prunella Wood lets you know the tricks of being fashion editor. Lucius Beebe gives the low-down on cafe society. There are a dozen others who have something to say about newspaper writers and the newspaper business as it actually is, and not as Hollywood melodramatizes it. "Writing Up the News" is a real glimpse behind the scene in the newspaper world.

Erskine Caldwell Writes Another Diatribe On Dixie

TROUBLE IN JULY, by Erskine Caldwell. Published by Duell, Sloan & Pearce; 241 pages, $2.50.

ERSKINE CALDWELL, AUTHOR OF "TOBACCO ROAD," has again struck with swift lightning shafts of bitterness, debauchery and general unpleasantness below the Mason-Dixon belt. The story covers a few days of bitter confusion which follows the supposed raping of a white girl by a Negro boy of 18, at a place called Flowery Branch, in the hills of Georgia.

With his usual shrewd and adroit manipulation of events, and his dramatic inventiveness when dealing with Southern inanities, he tells a tall tale of terror. A tale which includes a sheriff whose only thought in time of trouble is to protect his job by having nothing to do with either side; a judge who is a coward; a white girl, Katy, who is a strumpet; a Bible-selling widow who circulated a petition to have all the Negroes sent back to Africa, and who, incidentally, is to blame for the rape story; Preacher Felts, a Caldwell typical, and the white gal's father, who thought nothing of killing a Negro for breaking a hoe handle.

With this array of talented characters, Mr. Caldwell's stage is well set for the purpose of portraying with a vengeance the God-awfulness of the people and conditions in Flowery Branch, Ga., which, according to the editor is: "the real Deep South, the Georgia of endless cotton fields . . . the South in which the old aristocracy no longer rules. . . ."

The manhunt gets under way: The pitiful flight of Sonny, the accused, with his pet rabbit in his bosom, his wild terror as he flees from his pursuers; the antics of the hussy who is the indirect cause of the trouble; the vindictiveness of the grim men who are intent on avenging Southern womanhood. It's all here, played in a minor key upon the old, old theme—a theme which has already been used so many times.

But Mr. Caldwell adds a few thrills and mordents with the moanings of the tortured Negroes who had no knowledge of the supposed crime. And, not satisfied with these organized cries, plus the fierce, exultant terror of the mobbing, Mr. Caldwell adds a second big and better climax when Katy confesses the hoax.

Whatever may be said about Mr. Caldwell's cotton choppers, his small-town sheriff and petty politician, and all the characters which the editor calls "living and comical and frighteningly real—vivid symbols of our America;" whatever may be said about his picture of life in the piny woods section of Georgia, and plenty could be said, the fact remains that the book is bound to increase the bitter distaste for lynching among Southern people. It will help the movement which is well under way by organizations of men and women in the South, to demand a trial by law for anyone, black or white, who breaks the law, regardless of the crime.—ESTHER RENNICK.

University History Presented

Dr. W. Sherman Savage, left, is shown presenting his 300-page volume on "The History of Lincoln University" to Dr. Sherman D. Scruggs, president of the Jeffferson City, Mo., school. Dr. Savage is head of Lincoln's department of history.

Urban League

By JESSE O. THOMAS

The purpose of the Bulletin is to chronicle the worthwhile things done for, by, and with the Negro, as a basis of increasing inter-racial good-will and understanding.

Widespread interest in the condition and prospects of the American Negro is indicated by the many requests received for copies of "The Urban Negro Worker in the United States"—a research report in two volumes published by the United States Department of the Interior.

Nearly 400 chambers of commerce, heads of departments of commerce and finance, schools, and sociologists, literally from Maine to California, have ordered these books. Over 260 public libraries in this country, besides those of the University of Kiel, Germany, and the University of Commerce at Rotterdam, Holland, have received copies.

The two companion volumes were made possible through an allotment of WPA funds for the beginning of a new federal research project to study white-collar and skilled Negro workers. They present the findings of over 600 WPA workers, who visited and interviewed 335,000 Negroes in 74 cities with population of 10,000 or more, and 11 smaller cities.

Before this work was undertaken, detailed information on the occupations of Negroes in cities was not available. The report furnishes new materials for commercial, welfare, and educational agencies to use as a basis for constructive economic and social programs.

Skilled Workers Suffer.

The report shows that, while the number of male Negro skilled workers engaged in their usual occupations increased from 1925 to 1930, it declined sharply during the next six years. Only 74.5 per cent as many of these workers were employed in skilled occupations in 1936 as had been so engaged in 1925.

Almost half of the skilled Negro workers interviewed in 1936 were in other than skilled occupations. Of these, 42.4 per cent had found jobs as unskilled laborers and servants. The report indicates that this decrease in the number of skilled jobs available for male Negro skilled workers is more than temporary.

Not only did the period from 1930 to 1936 involve movement from skilled jobs to other than skilled ones, but it also led to shifting from usual occupations to no gainful employment. While only 8.4 per cent of those covered by the survey were out of jobs in 1930, fully 17.7 per cent were unemployed in 1936.

In the southern states, Negro skilled workers were more firmly integrated in the employment pattern of their communities than were their brothers in the middle Atlantic region. Occupational maladjustments were reported greatest in the latter region.

Workers Older Here.

Negro skilled workers in 1936 averaged less than 40 years of age. The southern workers were older than those in the north. The highest medium age was in the south Atlantic region, the lowest in the middle Atlantic region.

The average Negro skilled worker received more formal schooling than did the majority of the male Negro workers. The report shows that the skilled workers had completed their elementary schooling and started in high school. Workers in the north had completed more years of schooling than had those in the south.

Everywhere, however, experience was the most important method of preparation for the usual occupations among male Negro skilled workers. Less than a fiftieth considered that education alone had prepared them for their life's work. A tenth of the workers had depended upon apprenticeship only.

Books' Planners.

Volumes I and II of "The Urban Negro Worker in the United States" were planned and prepared in the office of Dr. Robert C. Weaver at the time that the present assistant to the administrator, United States Housing Authority, was adviser on Negro affairs to Secretary Harold L. Ickes of the Department of the Interior. Ira De A. Reid, professor of sociology at Atlanta University, was director of the survey. Preston Valien and Charles S. Johnson, professor at Fisk University, were supervisors of research and tabulation respectively.

Sociological Studies

RACE RELATIONS AND THE RACE PROBLEM. By Edgar T. Thompson and Others. Duke University Press. $3.50.

Will America of the future be a white America, a black America, a brown America, or a biracial America? What effect will co-operation of negroes and whites in the unions have on race relations? How sensitive are negroes to white discrimination, and what do they say to each other about this discrimination? What bearing does the movement of negroes from farm to city have on the race problem? What are the underlying bases of racial antipathy?

These and other significant questions are discussed in this volume, a symposium of 10 essays, edited by Prof. Edgar T. Thompson of Duke University.

The first article, entitled "The Nature of Race Relations," is the work of Prof. Robert E. Park of the University of Chicago. Prof. Edward Reuter of the University of Iowa contributes a chapter captioned "Competition and Racial Division of Labor." Other contributors and the titles of their essays are: S. J. Holmes, "The Trend of Racial Balance of Births and Deaths;" Rupert B. Vance, "Racial Competition for the Land;" Guy B. Johnson, "Patterns of Race Conflict;" Lewis C. Copeland, "The Negro As a Contrast Conception;" Edgar T. Thompson, "The Plantation, the Physical Basis of Traditional Race Relations;" W. Lloyd Warner and Allison Davis, "A Comparative Study of American Caste;" Everett V. Stonequist, "Race Mixture and the Mulatto." An interesting sidelight on the subject of the book is afforded by the fact that the concluding chapter—and, in the opinion of this reviewer, the best one—is an essay written by a negro, Prof. Charles S. Johnson of Fisk University entitled "Race Relations and Social Change."

The reader of "Race Relations and the Race Problem" infers that there is small likelihood of any great change in the racial composition of this country within the next few generations, as the population of both negroes and whites is increasing at about the same pace. However, if the tendency of negroes to migrate to cities and to become educated continues, the result will be a loss in numerical strength; urbanization seems to accentuate mortality, and education plays havoc with the birthrate—"There is approximately no way in which a people can so effectively commit race suicide," says Professor Park, "as by educating its women." The reader is also told that the negro is at greater advantage than the poor white in the competion for land, and that race consciousness and race conflict are giving way more and more to class consciousness and class conflict.

"Race Relations and the Race Problem" is a scholarly and stimulating work. The book suffers considerably, however, from a tendency all too prevalent among sociological experts; namely, the overuse of highfaluting and nebulous phraseology and an ultra-fondness for elaborating the obvious.

Race Relations

B. I. WILEY.
University of Mississippi, History Department.

with special reference to the South, but only with the full realization that to understand the interracial situation of any region or of any country is to view it in the widest possible perspective.

The contents of the book are as follows: The Nature of Race Relations: Competition and Race Relations; The Interracial Struggle for Existence; Racial Competition for the Land; Patterns of Racial Conflict; the Negro as a Contrast Conception; the Plantation; the Physical Basis of Race Relations in the South; Race Relations as Caste Relations; Race Mixture and the Mulatto; Race Relations and Social Change; A Short Bibliography of Race Relations.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

The South of Civil War Days Is Re-Created in Two Novels, Each Presenting Vivid Picture

"Show Me a Land," by Clark McMeekin. [Appleton-Century, $2.50.] Published last Friday.

"The Keepers of the House," by Harry Harrison Kroll. [Bobbs-Merrill, $2.50.] Published Monday.

BY FANNY BUTCHER.

Two vivid, lusty books about the south in pre-civil war days [and just after them] are these. Neither one is drenched in the cloying perfume of literary cape jasmine. Both are almost picaresque, for the hero of each is something of a rogue. Each is an unusual picture of the past as alive as any 1940 streamlined tale. And unlike many novels of the south, the wind has not already been whiffed from their sails by "Gone with the Wind."

"Show Me a Land" more nearly resembles its fantastically popular predecessor than does "The Keepers of the House," for the former's heroine is not unlike Scarlett O'Hara. She is like Scarlett only in her essential southerness, however, for, unlike Scarlett, Dana Terraine is not a hussy to the marrow of her bones, but only a strong-minded and self-willed southern belle. In spite of her flirtatiousness, when she loves once, she loves forever. The perennially young Irish squire, Rice Calphine, is the man she loves from the moment she sets eyes on him at a horse fair in England in 1816 until the book's final phrase, "the young squire and Miss Dana," which describes the 75 year old couple at the first Kentucky Derby in 1875.

Between those two dates epic adventures kindle both of their lives. There are hurricanes at sea, shipwrecks, almost heroic gayety on the Terraine plantation in Virginia, the loss of the long-held landhold on a horse race wager, a hazardous, wellnigh fatal trek to the bluegrass country of Kentucky, the growth of a region and of a family devoted to the culture of the horse.

Rumors of war and family feuds precede the civil war, and private grief mingles with public tragedy in a blazing epidemic of the cholera in Lexington. From the ashes of the war, phoenix-like, arises the cult of the horse. And the book ends with the epic race at Churchill Downs, May 17, 1875.

Fantastic characters, all vividly real, people these exciting pages. "Show Me a Land" is a ripping good story, which is exactly what "Gone with the Wind" was. told with an honest gusto. Practically any reader will find it an escape from care.

"Keepers of the House" has less thrilling adventure, more social implication. It records the life on a Mississippi river plantation half way between Natchez and Vicksburg.

Its hero, Lett, is the natural son of the plantation owner and his overseer's wife. Lett is torn, as growing boy and man, between his heritages, never knowing until almost the end of the book the cause of his unrest. Poor white trash in environment and in half his blood stream, Lett has a heritage from his father which drives him like a lash. He has ambition, but little means of satisfying it. In the end he betrays where he thinks he has been betrayed. His lifelong hatreds breed a cunning that brings into his hands the plantation, and, as the book closes, "he would be a good planter man . . . he would stand for the new type of planter that would rebuild the south."

The principal of those faults, it seems to me, is a change of mood in the book. It starts out, and continues for some time, as a satirical comedy. It ends on a note of poignant tragedy. In the beginning it is almost flip, so broad is Mr. Caldwell's satire of the sheriff who goes fishing every time there is any trouble because he doesn't want to mix politics with law enforcement.

With feeling running high, Sheriff Jeff sees that he can't please all of the voters, and when a posse is determined to lynch a colored boy he feels it's not the place of a county officer, elected by those voters, to interfere.

Sheriff Jeff is done almost as broad caricature. Sonny, the Negro boy falsely accused of rape, is, on the other hand, pictured with almost tender delicacy, and his childlike plea is infinitely touching when he says: "Mr. Harvey, if you thinks you has got to do what you says, I'd be mighty much obliged if you went and shot me down with a gun instead of turning me over to all them white men."

The reader is confused by the two points of approach, even when he realizes that their dissemblance is probably intentional on the author's part. To express opposite points of view on the part of his characters while keeping his own point of attack the same on both is a tricky technique which Mr. Caldwell has not mastered in this book.

New Erskine Caldwell Story

"Trouble in July," by Erskine Caldwell. [Duell, Sloan & Pearce, $2.50.] Published last Friday.

The dramatization of Erskine Caldwell's novel, "Tobacco Road," has broken the all time record for the American stage by running since September, 1934. In his new novel, Mr. Caldwell has used the same background and much the same method as he did in that tale. In "Trouble in July," however, the humor is broader, the satire more apparent, and the tragedy more poignant. The resulting novel is not easily forgotten, neither its faults nor its excellencies.

Best Sellers

FICTION.

Kitty Foyle, by Christopher Morley.
The Nazarene, by Sholem Asch.
How Green Was My Valley, by Richard Llewellyn.
The Grapes of Wrath, by John Steinbeck
Portrait of Jennie, by Robert Nathan.
After Many a Summer Dies the Swan, by Aldous Huxley.

NONFICTION.

A Smattering of Ignorance, by Oscar Levant.
Happy Days, by H. L. Mencken.
Days of Our Years, by Pierre Van Paassen
Land Below the Wind, by Agnes Newton Keith.
Abraham Lincoln: The War Years, by Carl Sandburg.
Country Lawyer, by Bellamy Partridge.

MYSTERIES.

And Then There Were None, by Agatha Christie.
In the Teeth of the Evidence, by Dorothy Sayers.
The New Adventures of Ellery Queen.
The French Key, by Frank Gruber.

Newport News, Va. Press
January 28, 1940

HISTORY OF NEGRO PREPARED BY WPA WRITERS OUT SOON

Project Members Now Compiling Biography of Huntington Library, Making Youth Survey

A branch of the Virginia writers' project, composed entirely of Negro workers, operates in the lower Peninsula with headquarters in the Collis P. Huntington library of Hampton Institute. For more than two years workers on this project, supervised by Roscoe E. Lewis, have been searching through all available source materials and condensing voluminous field workers' reports while preparing the manuscript of "THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA," now being published by Hastings House, Inc., of New York City.

Edited under the supervision of Mrs. Eudora Ramsay Richardson, State director of the Virginia writers' project, "THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA" presents an accurate and interesting account of the Negro's many contributions to Virginia from his coming in 1619 down to the present. In its published form, the book will be more than 170,000 words long and of about 500 pages, with 50 illustrations and a unique pictorial map of Negro Virginia. February, 1940, has been announced as the publication date. "THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA" is sponsored by Dr. Arthur Howe of Hampton institute, who already has arranged for the distribution of the first 1,000 copies.

Now that their major task, "THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA," is finished, the dozen Negro workers on the Virginia writers' project are hard at work on other asignments. One group, assisted by educational consultants is preparing a condensed version of the larger book, with review questions and according to modern text book requirements. Another group is preparing a bibliography of the Negro History collection of the Collis P Huntington library of Hampton institute.

In the more than 70 years since its founding, Hampton institute has accumlated a remarkable collection of material on the Negro. Numerous Northern and Southern donors have willed their entire libraries to the institute. The Collis P. Huntington library, the major funds for which were granted by the founder of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company, was intended as a public rather than a private library, open to every citizen of the community. It is believed that the publication of the bibliography now being prepared will reveal to many patrons of the library the wealth of information about the Negro that is found at Hampton institute.

A fourth project carried on by Negro workers on the Virginia writers' project has been the recording on phonograph discs of songs and folk tales as sung and related by various Negro groups all over Virginia. Groups of ex-slaves in Petersburg, Norfolk, Suffolk, Lynchburg, and Newport News have been brought together to sing before the microphone the songs that they learned in "those back days." President Howe made available a recording machine for this purpose.

More than 150 records have been made and filed in the folk-lore files of Hampton institute by workers on this particular project. Not all of the song "finds" have been of ancient vintage. The oldest song thus far recorded, "If Your Shoes Ain't Good You Caint Travel," was taught her many years ago, according to the 93 year-old ex-slave who sang it, by her aged grandmother; the most recent, "Jesus is My Air-o-plane," has been called by folk-lore experts who have heard it, an authentic spiritual.

Perhaps the most far-reaching undertaking of the Negro workers on the Virginia writers' project is the urban Negro youth survey, now in progress. An atempt is being made to have field workers interview every single out-of-school Negro boy and girl between the ages of 16 and 24 in

THEY PRESERVE SLAVE-TIME SONGS FOR GENERATIONS UNBORN

Vocal music evolved by the Negro race in the United States during the period of Negro slavery, while it has not the grandiose concept nor the sustained flight of the larger musical forms, yet has and retains a deep charm of spiritual expression. This group of Negroes, all former slaves, at Petersburg sang a group of slave songs which were recorded by the Virginia WPA Negro writers' project—or else might have sunk into oblivion —and are now preserved in the Huntington library at Hampton institute.

tive cities of Virginia—Richmond, Petersburg, Lynchburg, Norfolk, Hampton, and Newport News. Field workers with interview forms are systematically covering Negro population districts in each of these cities; at headquarters their progress is followed by map and the forms are checked and tabulated. More than 2,000 forms have been filled out thus far in all five cities. It is believed that this project when completed, will result in the most comprehensive investigation of Negro youth to be made in Virginia.

The Cotton Growers

SPRING WILL COME AGAIN. By Florence Glass Palmer. 421 pp. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company. $2.50.

THIS is a story of cotton-growers and cotton-growing in the South, during the closing years of the last century, when the reconstruction period was at an end, and new adjustments were beginning to be made. The scene is laid in Douglasville, Ala., one of the "jewel cities" of the Black Belt, and the generation with which it deals is the one whose fathers fought in the Civil, and whose sons fought in the Spanish-American War.

To Douglasville, about the year 1880, came William Day, a Mississippian by birth, whose father had been a cotton planter on rather poor land which, by his advice, William had sold after his death. William's cousins owned a plantation near Douglasville; he had heard of the richness of the soil, and as cotton-growing was the only thing he knew how to do well, he had decided to settle somewhere in the neighborhood.

Using his tiny capital to rent a few acres, he started to work them with the aid of two or three Negroes, himself toiling harder than any of them. But he found time to fall in love with pretty, gentle Ardisia Rains. They had to wait awhile, but were able to marry while they were both very young; children were born to them, and William worked harder than ever, partly because he hoped to become wealthy enough to give his children the education his father had been obliged to deny him, partly because he had a vision of helping "to rebuild this wasting soil at Douglasville, and teach Israel's race new skills." Israel Clark was a Negro who had ambition, intelligence and great courage, as well as "a snow-white soul."

The book gives many long and detailed accounts of cotton-growing and its difficulties, of the ginning mills of various types, and of the troubles encountered by mill-owners. There are a great many characters, Negroes, poor whites who find competition with Negro labor all but impossible, men who belonged to Douglasville's old, once-wealthy families, and recent settlers who had come there hoping to make money. The trials of readjustment, of accustoming Negroes to freedom and to the use of money, the problem of the mulatto, the politics of the period, the need of changing from one way of life to another, all enter into the book, while the essential unity of Douglasville, the way those who have always lived there stand together in time of trouble and their kindness even to those outsiders they have tacitly refused to accept, gives a pleasant impression of a real community spirit.

But the narrative moves slowly and heavily; its characters lack vitality, and consequently interest. The reader never becomes really concerned about them, and so never greatly cares what happens to them. Even the Negro Israel Clark, perhaps the best-drawn character in the book, never comes alive.

The scheme of the novel is ambitious, but one feels that Mrs. Palmer has attempted a task far beyond her present powers, assumed a burden beneath which she struggles wearily and ineffectually. The novel is painstaking, conscientious, apparently the result of a great deal of labor, but it has neither spirit nor freshness, and even the tragedy of Becky is without poignancy, leaving the reader unmoved. Mrs Palmer has tried to do something well worth doing; it is a pity that her book should be without the vitality and imaginative power which can make the dead past live again.

LOUISE MAUNSELL FIELD.

Writes Book

GEORGE W. GORE, JR.

Dean of A. and I. State College, who has written a book telling of the work of teachers in Colored Schools of the State. Dean Gore is the first graduate of Pearl High School to be awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Dr. G. W. Gore Is Author of New Book

State College Dean Writes on "Negro School Teachers in Tennessee."

Nashville born and reared, a product of the Volunteer State, and now a member of the faculty of A and I. State College, is the first record of George W. Gore, Jr., Ph D., but his recent achievement has just come to light in a new book "Inservice Professional Improvement of Negro Public School Teachers in Tennessee." The first press copies of such a book came from the Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University. The book itself is titled "Teachers College, Columbia University Contributions to Education."

The author got his doctor's degree from this well known institution. He needs no introduction to the people of Nashville, Davidson County and the state, because they have known "George Gore" from infancy. They watched him as he went through the public schools, then through colleges, universities and they applauded him when he secured his degree, and now he comes forth with a Volume "To President W. J. Hale, under whose guidance and inspiration the author has learned much concerning teacher education," which is the terse, abbreviated, but outstanding dedication of this volume by its author.

The entire book deals with and presents in concrete form fifty-five captions in the tables, so that the reader might know exactly what is being presented in this particular study and thesis, which was of so much importance that Columbia University, through its Bureau of Publications, was impelled to put it into book form and give credit to this Nashville product and this member of what the people in Tennesse believe to be the greatest state school for Negroes in the nation.

In chapter I., known as he Introduction, there is a Historical Background that covers a great scope and deals in a very fine way with Negro teacher education. The publication is now on the market, and it is thought that its greatest distribution and sale will be from A. & I. State College.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

The Natural History of Dictatorship and Democracy

LEVIATHAN AND THE PEOPLE. By R. M. MacIver. 182 *pp. Louisiana State University Press.* $2.

By JOHN CORBIN

IN the modern world, according to Professor MacIver of Columbia, the Leviathan of Hobbes has achieved a split personality, emerging as both Dictatorship and Democracy. In three lectures delivered at Louisiana State University he sketched the natural history of both; and he now puts them forth as essays, adding an almost equal bulk of "commentary" on various passages.

It is his endeavor to present the case for each "fairly and without distortion"; and in this he has succeeded—at least from the point of view of advocates of democracy.

The dictators worship force and they persecute truth * * * Sheer force has constructed nothing, certainly not the building of great States and empires. It is no accident that the great empires of the ancient world, Egypt, Athens, Rome, were those of the peoples who in their own times contributed most to the products of the mind. The States that have achieved and maintained greatness have applied force to assert advantages that were prior to their force, advantages without which their force would have been as vain and short-lived as the shadows of passing clouds.

So far, so good—indeed admirable But, presto, enter that other Leviathan. Dictators flout democracy as self-deluding and destined for the discard; and so we have had 1870 and 1914 and 1939, bad times for democracy, as Professor MacIver admits.

The international politics of European States throughout the modern period have been a barren record of waste and folly and ruin * * * nothing but the blood and tears of the people. * * * The only sane solution of the problems that face modern States is one built on the grounds the dictators repudiate, that of an international order. In other words, democracy has failed utterly, at Geneva and Locarno and elsewhere, to erect an international order. Surely the democratic peoples, from amid their blood and tears, have a right to be told why that is, told "fairly and without distortion."

Like most of his fellow-advocates of democracy, Professor MacIver does not descend, or ascend, to a criticism of it. One and all, they are of the object-lesson, the *either-or,* school of thought. The two Leviathans are the horns of a dilemma and one can only choose between them. He does, however, recognize in our Constitution a peculiar form of "democracy," and thus his book is unusually deserving of attention from us the people who find ourselves in that sanguinary and tearful Valley of Decision.

Our "system of checks and balances," he says, was devised to be "ambivalent." It is an intriguing word. As here used, it refers to "ambiguity in the Constitution," perhaps a conscious deception. In their hearts the Fathers distrusted democracy and "looked to the Constitution to hold it permanently in leash." But their system was so artfully framed that it "could be viewed as a safeguard of democracy," a fact of which The Federalist made effective propaganda. Beginning with Jefferson's Revolution of 1800, however, the nineteenth century changed all that. "American democracy" developed "along its own lines" and grew "fully conscious of its new-world quality."

The truth is that the Fathers made what they called "the democratic element" basic in the Constitution and, at the last analysis, controlling in legislation. But they balanced it against certain instruments of authority so as to create what they called, and what still is, a republic. In spite of its subsequent *democratization,* the written Constitution is still held supreme by the courts, the Senate is still the strongest upper chamber in the world and our President in any free nation. As Executive in any free nation. As against the *either-or* of Leviathans we have a *tertium quid* which perhaps deserves something better than to be called ambivalent.

The ideology of the balanced republic had a continuous development from James Harrington to John Adams; and its actual history runs from colonial charters to the State Constitutions that preceded and vastly influenced the Constitutional Convention. To the Fathers the natural and inevitable end of unbalanced democracy was impotence and confusion, giving way to dictatorship precisely as it has done of late throughout the world—and threatens to do in the few remaining democracies. All this modern advocates of democracy ignore, for what reason it would perhaps not be polite to inquire.

Not so the responsible statesmen who, as the Gallic word is, have *assisted* at the demise of what Professor MacIver calls the "international order"—specifically the League of Nations. They have deeply pondered Clarence K. Streit's luminous volume, "Union Now," which contends that a viable international order can only be created by vesting a Federation of Nations with resources and an authority analogous to those of our Republic. Neville Chamberlain described such a Union as Britain's "peace aim" and M. Daladier presently echoed him. The British Ambassador at Washington, as reported by The New York Times, declared that he "foresaw the eventual application to Europe of the Federal principle tried first on the American Continent a century and a half ago."

Richard Wright To Be Guest Speaker Jan. 26 At Writers' School

Richard Wright, whose forthcoming novel, "Native Son", is the selection of the Book of the Month Club for March, will be the guest speaker at a reunion of the students of the Writers' School on Friday, January 26, at the Dalcroze School of Music, 9 East 16th street, preliminary to the opening of the regular term.

The seventh session will open Monday, February 5th, and will include courses intended to prepare students for professional writing careers. Classes in creative, commercial, introductory and advanced short story writing will be taught by George Albee, author of "Young Roberts"; Mary Elting, book reviewer and literary agent, and Myra Page, author of "Gathering Storm." Romantic pulp writing will be taught by Jean Karsavina, contributor to the better pulp magazines; the technique of verse writing by Eda Lou Walton, author of several anthologies of verse and Associate Professor of Poetry, New York University. Radio script writing will be given by George Asness, who directed the Radio Unit of the Federal Theatre and playwriting by Barrie Stavis, author of "Sun and Ira Henry Freeman, reporter, New York Times will give a course in journalism and Lucien Zacharoff, author and feature writer, will teach a course in popular article writing.

A USEFUL BOOK ON THE SOUTH

The latest number in the series of 'Southland Books," written by Alabamians and printed by the Dixie Book Company, Inc., of Montgomery, is "The Rural South" by Mr. Samuel Lee Chesnutt, professor of agricultural education at Alabama Polytechnic Institute. It is a school text book suitable for use in any Southern state, but its textbook character is not forbidding to the general reader. He can skip the questions at the end of each chapter and confine his reading to the narrative and comment by the author. The original illustrations are by Nathan Glick, the maps and graphs by W. K. Hollis. There are numerous photographs also.

The historical background of agriculture in the South includes the period of the aborigines, the period of the early pioneers, of slavery and the plantations, of war and its effect upon Southern economy the flowering of industry, the growth of tenancy, the impending threat of serfdom Much attention is given to the development of popular education in the South the public health service and all related problems in our civilization.

Prof. Chesnutt has done a thoroughgoing job. Not only is his book interesting and challenging, but it is entertaining The reader will find the author's choice of illustrations particularly happy and helpful.

The Advertiser gladly commends this book to all students of Southern life. It is a noteworthy contribution to our regional literature.

RELEASE BOOK ON 'URBAN NEGRO WORKER IN U. S.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 18—Widespread interest in the situation and prospects of the American Negro is indicated by the many requests received for copies of "The Urban Negro Worker in the United States"—a research report in two volumes published by the United States Department of the Interior. Nearly 400 Chambers of Commerce, heads of Departments of Commerce and Finance, and schools and sociologists, literally from Maine to California, have ordered these books. Over 250 public libraries in this country, besides those of the University of Kiel, Germany, and the University of Commerce at Rotterdam, Holland, have received copies.

The two companion volumes were made possible through an allotment of WPA funds for the beginning of a new Federal research project to study white-collar and skilled Negro workers. They present the findings of over 600 WPA workers who visited and interviewed 335,000 Negroes in seventy-four cities with population of 10,000 or more and eleven smaller cities.

Before this work was undertaken, detailed information on the occupations of Negroes in cities was not available. The report furnishes new material for commercial, welfare and educational agencies to use as a basis for constructive economic and social programs.

The report shows that, while the number of male Negro skilled workers engaged in their usual occupations increased from 192[illegible] to 1930, it declined sharply during the next six years. Only 74.5 as many of these workers were employed in skilled occupations in 1936 as had been so engaged in 1925.

Almost half of the skilled Negro workers interviewed in 193[illegible] were in other than skilled occupations. Of these, 42.4 percent had found jobs as unskilled laborers and servants. The report indicates that this decrease in the number of skilled jobs available for male Negro skilled workers is more than temporary.

Not only did the period from 1930 to 1936 involve movement from skilled jobs to other than skilled ones, but it also led to shifting from usual occupations to no gainful employment. While only 8.4 percent of these covered by the survey were out of jobs in 1930, fully 17.7 percent were unemployed in 1936.

In the southern states, Negro skilled workers were more firmly integrated in the employment patterns of their communities than were their brothers in the Middle Atlantic region. Occupational maladjustments were reported greatest in the latter region.

Negro skilled workers in the [illegible] averaged less than forty years of age. The southern workers were older than those in the north. The highest median age was in the South Atlantic region, the lowest in the Middle Atlantic region.

The average male Negro skilled worker received more formal schooling than did the majority of the male Negro workers. The report shows that the skilled workers had completed their elementary schooling and started in high school. Workers in the North had completed more years of schooling than had those in the South. Everywhere, however, experience was the most important method for preparation for the usual occupations among male Negro skilled workers. Less than a fifth considered that education alone had prepared them for their life work. A tenth of the workers had depended upon apprenticeship only.

Volumes I and II of "The Urban Negro Worker in the United States" were lanned and prepared in the office of Dr. Robert C. Weaver at the time that the present assistant administrator, U. S. Housing Authority, was Adviser on Negro Affairs to Secretary Harold L. Ickes of the Department of the Interior. Ira De A. Reid, professor of sociology at Atlanta University, was director of the survey. Preston Valien and Charles S. Johnson, professor at Fisk University, were supervisors of research and tabulation respectively. Miss Josephine Davis of the Office of the Adviser on Negro Affairs, figured largely in every step leading to the preparation of the two volumes for distribution and use at limited cost.

DETECTIVE IS SEEKING $50,000 IN LIBEL CASE

Boulin Sues Publishing Company and Labor Writer Who Charged He Furnishes Negro 'Finks and Nobles' for Pullman Co.

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—Justice Kenneth O'Brien this week was expected to deliver a decision in the $50,000 libel suit filed against the McBride Publishing company and Edward Levinson, labor writer, by Herbert S. Boulin Harlem private detective.

Boulin is seeking $25,000 each from Levinson and the publishing company for statements made in the writer's book on labor espionage, "I Break Strikes."

In the book, which described the strike-breaking activities of Pearl Bergdoff, Levinson charged that Boulin furnished Negro "finks" and "nobles" (scabs and guards) for the Pullman company in an effort to break the threatened strike of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in 1928.

LEVINSON SUPPORTED BY FRANK R. CROSSWAITH

In his defense before Justice O'Brien in Supreme Court here last week, Levinson was supported by Frank R. Crosswaith, chairman of the Negro Labor Committee, who testified that Boulin was ejected from a Brotherhood meeting which he attended uninvited at that time.

The detective had testified earlier in his behalf that he had only attended the meeting because he was interested in the organization of all Negro workers. He declared that he had stayed to the end of the meeting and had shaken hands with A. Philip Randolph, organizer and president of the Brotherhood.

Mr. Randolph, also testifying for Levinson, denied Boulin's statement and attacked the detective's reputation among Negroes.

"I NEVER IN MY LIFE SHOOK HANDS WITH BOULIN"

"I never in my life shook hands with Boulin," he said. "Since I am very careful of my own reputation, I would remember it if I had ever shaken his hand."

An employment manager of the Pullman company testified that he had no knowledge of the detective's employment by the company and that company records he had examined did not list such employment.

Boulin himself testified that he had never worked in any labor dispute and stated that his investigations usually concerned divorce cases and probes of thefts.

Mrs. Elinor Herrick, regional director of the National Labor Relations Board here, testified that Levinson had always been a dependable labor reporter when employed by the New York Post. His book, "I Break Strikes," was included in the board's labor library, she stated.

Boulin also sued the New York Post which ran the expose serially, but the case was settled out of court.

Book Review

MOSES OF THE MOUNTAIN

By Zora Neale Hurston
J. B. Lippincott & Co. pp. 351.
Price $3.00

This is the fifth literary production from the pen of Zora Neale Hurston, one of our younger Negro writers. Those who have read her former productions know something of her literary genius as expressed in her vivid imagination, her gripping expressions, her ability to clothe her characters with life and her power to express Negro thought and life.

"MOSES Man of the Mountain" cannot be classified as a biography of the great Leader of Israel. While the writer follows the general life outline of his great character in a most fascinating manner, yet there is so much fictional meander that it loses its biographical setting and enters the realm of the imaginative.

The book is strikingly interesting and especially to those who are familiar with the life and character of this God-Man, and the facts surrounding his birth, rearing, development, work and death. We also get an illuminating glimpse of Egyptian life and history during those early days of human civilization.

While the story is brilliantly imaginative and grippingly interesting from beginning to end, the real value of the production is to be found in its remarkable delineation of Group Psychology particularly disclosed in the spontaneous expressions of primitive impulses. The instability of Israel; the treachery and jealousies of the Elders of Israel and even of Miriam and Aaron are so life-like and strikingly human that we seem to see them repeated time and again before our very eyes. The author shows herself to great advantage as a close student of human nature and conduct. It is well written and remarkably interesting.

Reviewed by Rev. R. J. Langston
A. B. B. D. D.

Author Lauds Negro Unionist In New Book

NEW YORK, Feb.—"When a Negro joins a union, he means it....The best unionist I have ever seen is the Negro union man," says Dr. Katherine D. Lumpkin in her new book, "The South in Progress."

Dr. Lumpkin is a native white southerner and co-author with Dorothy Douglass of the standard work on child labor, "Child Workers in America." The new book was completed in collaboration with the Labor Association, and makes a strong plea for trade unity and the abolition of color bars in the labor movement.

"The South," the author says, "is the last place in the world where there should be a division in labor ranks. The magnitude of southern problems demands the broadest popular attack upon them.

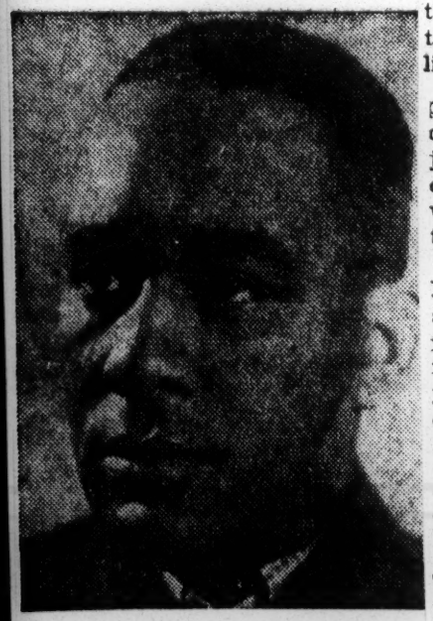
"Skilled and unskilled workers, manual and professional, Negro and white, conservative, liberal and left-wing trade unionists of long experience and fresh recruits—if southern people are to make real progress, they cannot afford to be left out."

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Richard Wright Rates As One of Country's Foremost Contemporary Novelists

Young Author's Book, 'Native Son', Chosen By Book of the Month Club; He's Now Writing Third Novel

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — Richard Wright, brilliant young author whose new novel, "Native Son," is being published by Harper Brothers Friday, March 1, and is the March selection of the Book of the Month club, has already completed the first writing of still another novel which will probably be published sometime in 1941, he revealed last week while on a trip to Chicago.



RICHARD WRIGHT

The former Mississippian, who is 31 years old, also stated that his formal schooling did not extend beyond the eighth grade. Since receiving a diploma from the Smith-Robinson public school in Jackson, Miss., in 1925, he has lived a varied life before embarking on a literary career that today places him in the forefront of American novelists regardless of color.

This is, incidentally, the first time that a Negro author's book has been selected by the Book of the Month club.

Learned by Reading

Although his first book, "Uncle Tom's Children," was not published until 1938 immediately after winning a $500 national contest sponsored by Story magazine, Mr. Wright has been writing seriously since 1935. An avid reader, he familiarized himself with works of the great writers and absorbed a thorough knowledge of the English language.

His first literary efforts, both prose and poetry, shared the fate of most early work: some were rejected, some accepted. Never discouraged, he developed the habit of writing daily which he still practices.

It was the publication in the New Caravan in 1936 of a short story that really started him to fame. Mr. Wright was then living in Chicago, his home for many years, and when this story attracted wide critical attention, he felt encouraged to go to New York, the nation's literary capital. He went there in June, 1937, and in less than a year had won the national contest with "Uncle Tom's Children." This enabled him to win a Guggenheim award for 1939, under which "Native Son" was completed and his new work begun.

A Study of Women

His next book, he said, will be a study of the role and position of the Negro woman in American society. It will trace her emotional growth from the feudal South to Fascist tendencies in the North and will treat the problems of domestic workers.

"In all my work, I intend to draw as wide a canvass as possible," he declared. "I went to show the life of the Negro as it is actually lived, influenced by the many different environmental and sociological factors. 'Uncle Tom's Children' dealt with the South; 'Native Son' is a story of Chicago, and the next book will deal mainly with the East. By varying backgrounds, I also hope to avoid monotony.'

When setting down the first draft of a manuscript, Mr. Wright writes 15 to 30 pages daily. He revises at a much slower rate. His working day begins around 9 o'clock in the morning. Unlike many writers, he works better in the morning than late at night. He also manages to keep two plots ahead of his current story.

Relaxes at Moovies

For relaxation, he attends the movies, often seeing two or three shows the same day and has recently developed an interest in amateur photography. He also relaxes by reading the books of contemporary authors.

Personally he is modest, affiable and an excellent talker. He's a fraction under five feet nine and weighs 157. At present he is thinking seriously of going to Mexico this spring to revise and finish his latest manuscript. If so, it will be something of a belated honeymoon trip as well, for he was married last summer in New York.

"The Old Gray"

By

Rev. E. Philip Ellis

THE LAST CHANCE

When this release appears all persons who secured space in the 75 years exposition edition book of "Who is Who" in South Carolina, will have received notices from the company over our signature that next week is the dead line for such materials. All presiding elders, general conference delegates, pastors and lay members who will attend the presiding elders' council meeting at Columbia, Tuesday the 12th please bring your cut and write up with you plus $6. I will be there to receive and receipt you for same. Aspirants will bring twice that amount if your matter consumes a half page. In case you take a whole page it will be four times the amount quoted above. Persons not expecting to attend please send money, cut and sketches by your husband, pastor, reliable friend or mail directly to The Palmetto Leader, Columbia, S. C. Drawer 327 with check or Money Order made payable to George H. Hampton. This week I am busy collecting from those patronizing this wonderful publication in low part of the state so as to spend next week in Columbia arranging the same. All matter and materials for this publication is strickly cash. We cannot make cuts from pictures on credit. By all means send money or your matter will be propertly laid aside until you send stapms for its return or call for it at my address or at headquarters in Columbia. The company's force is at work on this mammoth publication is why The Palmetto Leader is confined to four pages some weeks instead of eight its regular size. Our press is held up by your delay. Just as soon as you receive your card this week send matter by return mail. Don't even wait for next week is possible. To make this urgent appeal we dispensed with our briefs, thisweek but will have somewhat to say next week. Watch the Leader.

"Let us Advance on Our Knees"

Book-Of-Month Club Novelist Now Writing His Third Volume

Richard Wright, Rated as One of America's Most Brilliant Writers, Graduated Only from Eighth Grade.

CHICAGO, Feb. 29. (ANP)—Richard Wright, brilliant young author whose new novel, "Native Son," is being published by Harper Brothers Friday, March 1, and is the March selection of the Book of the Month Club, has already completed the first writing of still another novel which will probably be published some time in 1941, he revealed last week while on a trip to Chicago.

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TO WRITE ON OUR WOMEN IN AMERICAN SOCIETY

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A NOTABLE BOOK

"THE LIFE OF ATTICUS GREEN HAYGOOD," written by Dr. Elam F. Dempsey and just off the press is a great work about a very great man who was one of the earliest and best friends the newly emancipated Negro had. Very few, if any, of this generation of Negroes know anything about the late Bishop Atticus Green Haygood and his abiding interest in our race at a time when it meant social and religious ostracism for a Southern white man to manifest much interest in the welfare and well-being of Negroes. Dr. Haygood was a frequent visitor to Paine Institute in Augusta, Ga., when I was a student in that school, and when the furor created by his book, "OUR BROTHER IN BLACK: HIS FREEDOM AND FUTURE," was at its heights. Bishop Haygood was one of the first, if not *the* first agent of The Slater Fund and was largely instrumental in formulating the wise plan for its distribution which helped to found and foster many of the now leading schools of our race.

This 800 page book of Dr. Dempsey's contain many chapters and pages devoted to magazine and newspaper articles from the pen of Bishop Haygood setting forth his views concerning the just and proper attitude of the white people towards the Negro. Chapters 20, 27, 40, 72, 74 will be of special interest to the preachers and leaders of our race. Among the 175 illustrations which embellish the book are cuts of the late great Bishop Isaac Lane and of Dr. Carver, the great scientist of our race, and others of this race of ours who were benefitted by the friendly attitude of Bishop Haygood towards the Negro.

"THE LIFE OF ATTICUS GREEN HAYGOOD" should be in the library of every Negro bishop, preacher, leader and in the library of every Negro school of whatever rank.

Send $5.00 to DR. E. F. DEMPSEY, 810 Broadway, Nashville, Tenn., at once for a copy.

BISHOP R. A. CARTER

Chicago, Illinois

Noble Sissle Completes Manuscript For Book

NEW YORK, April 5—**Noble Sissle, international orchestra director, who for more than a year has held forth in the Billy Rose "Diamond Horseshoe" on Forty-sixth street at Broadway, announces the completion of his manuscript for his book which he has been preparing for more than three years.**

The book will be in the nature of his experiences in America and Europe, during the World War, on the stage and as director of his band. The book will be illustrated with exclusive photographs, and will go to the publishers immediately.

Sissle received the final decree for his divorce from his former wife, Harriet Sissle, February 10, this year. Following his New York stay, the well known director will make an extended road tour, which will include Hollywood.

Asked about his rumored marriage to the very charming Ethel Watkins, of the Cotton Club, a native of Miami, Fla., and once voted the most beautiful girl in Miami, Sissle said: "You know, I am very busy now, and we are planning some very big things for the Negro Actors' Guild, before I go on the road."

Sissle and Blake, Miller and "Bill" Vodery, also have in preparation a new show the music of which, and the story, promise to excel the gloriest glorified days of "Shuffle Along."

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

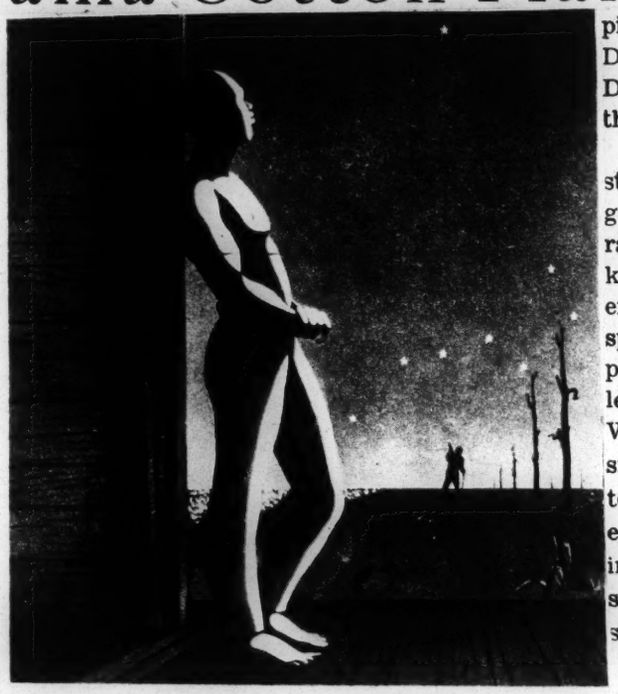
On an Alabama Cotton Plantation

FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD. By Frances Gaither. 270 pp. New York: The Macmillan Company. $2.50.

"FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD" is a novel considerably easier to read than to describe. In language both unpretentious and poetic, with the aid of the simplest possible imagery, Frances Gaither tells the story of a cotton plantation on the Alabama River. This plantation — called Hurricane, from a hurricane track left through the pine woods by some unremembered storm—is none we have seen before in fiction. For the absentee owners it is merely an investment and not very profitable at that. For the slaves who live and work, quarrel and make love, marry and die on Hurricane, it is a self-contained world.

It is a world sometimes harsh and occasionally joyous, governed well or badly by a succession of overseers, but a world to be borne in any case. For Long Sam and Dicey, Yellow Mary and Poldo, there is nothing outside. Dimly they recall an earlier paradise, now impossibly distant and gone forever, known as "back home in Georgia." Now and then one of the restless younger darkies lights out for it, usually to be brought back by the Sheriff after a night or two in the bottoms. Brown-skinned Buck actually made it once, and Mas John Austen sent him back. Then there was the fearful limbo of being "sold away." No Austen slave was sold away while Mas John lived.

Mas John's plantation in Georgia was wearing



From the Jacket Design for "Follow the Drinking Gourd."

out. The exhausted land yielded less each year. Finally, hard pressed by debt, Mas John bought a virgin tract in Alabama. No plantation house was built there, only quarters for the slaves and the overseer. The land was cleared and planted, but somehow luck never held. Perhaps it was the fault of absentee ownership. Perhaps, as one disgruntled overseer said, it was because Mas John spoiled his hands, fed them too well and whipped them too seldom. The burden of debt remained, to be inherited by Mas Robbie Austen, then by the bank, and this land too began to wear out.

The darkies understood this vaguely and worked their hearts out for Mas Robbie during his brief rule. But mainly they considered it no business of theirs. Black men worked and white men worried. So the owners thought, too, though they were free at least to wish themselves clear of the vicious economic circle. "God know I wish I had my money out of this sort of property * * * pretty nearly any sort of bonds would lie quiet in the box where I locked 'em and not pester me twenty times during dinner to tell me their troubles."

This history of the life and death of one slave-worked plantation suggests—Frances Gaither rarely does more than suggest any kind of conclusion—that the system could have been ended only by violence. There are no heroes in the drama, only good masters like the Austens and good slaves like Poldo, equally helpless in a world they did not make. Strictly speaking there are no villains. An occasional bad overseer is inevitable, human nature being what it is, but for every grasping and cruel James Nail there is a decent and honest Littleberry.

Yet it had to end somewhere. Already Mas Robbie, young enough to remember the arguments of his college debating society, is taking abolition seriously. And here and there a slave more rebellious than his fellows is slipping off to follow the Drinking Gourd, the Big Dipper, northward toward the underground railway.

It is really a surprising story Mrs. Gaither has given us here, a panoramic novel in brief, the kind of chronicle of an era which might have sprawled over a thousand pages but actually takes less than thre hundred. Written with beautiful simplicity and economy, too mellow for tragedy, "Follow the Drinking Gourd" nevertheless seems just and compassionate, moving and true.

MARGARET WALLACE.

Mr. Faulkner's Family of Poor Whites

THE HAMLET. By William Faulkner. 421 pp. New York: Random House. $2.50.

By HAROLD STRAUSS

ALMOST all of Faulkner's novels have been set in the imaginary town of Jefferson, in Yoknapatawpha County, Miss., and in almost all of them there have appeared characters by the name of Snopes. Wherever there was a Snopes, there was sure to be evil or violence, or at the very least chicanery. Although originally they were poor illiterate whites from the hills, they came to infest the county like a disease; they were just shrewd enough always to get the better of their fellow-citizens, and just vicious enough to care not how.

"The Hamlet" tells a part of the story of this invasion. Hardly a lucid writer at best, Faulkner has compounded his obscurity by scattering other parts of the Snopes story here and there in the Jefferson saga. The earliest mention of a Snopes I can recall is in "The Unvanquished." There young Bayard Sartoris, just after the siege of Vicksburg, hunts down Ab Snopes for abetting the murder of his grandmother; he beats him almost to death, and there is talk of a tree and ropes and a heated iron. Up to that time Ab had been just an ordinary, none-too-honest hill man. "But that soured him some." And when Pat Stamper out-smarted him at horse-trading, "he went just plum curdled." That seems to be the origin of the Snopes truculence. At any rate, it's a mighty sour Ab Snopes who rides into this book and asks to share-crop for Will Varner.

Varner owns the store and most of the land at Frenchman's Bend, a lonely corner of the country where thin, gaunt hill men "marry and commit infrequent adulteries and more frequent homicides among themselves and are their own courts, judges and executioners." In spite of Ab's violent temper and barn-burning tendencies, Varner and his son Joby, thinking to outsmart a Snopes, sign him on. They might have gotten the better of Ab but for his son, Flem. Flem attaches himself like a leech to the Varners. First he clerks in their store; then he marries their daughter, Eula, when she and her unborn child are deserted by the school teacher; then he gets possession of a good bit of Varner land; and finally he brings in other Snopeses, sons, brothers and cousins.

To complete Flem's story, one must turn to another Jefferson novel. Just once, in "Absalom, Absalom," Faulkner provided graphic assistance for befuddled readers in the form of a map rich with inscriptions. In the lower right-hand corner is Frenchman's Bend and the Varner store, "where Flem Snopes got his start." To the left is marked "The Old Frenchman Place, which Flem Snopes unloaded on Henry Armstid and Suratt." (These two events are in "The Hamlet," and it is interesting to note that they were planned before 1936, when the map was printed.) But another inscription refers to events not touched upon in the present book. It reads, "Old Bayard Sartoris' bank, which Byron Snopes robbed, which Flem Snopes later became president of."

I mention this inscription because, like nothing in "The Hamlet" itself, it reveals the significance of the Snopes story. For the Snopeses are the poor whites who filter down from the hills, who drive out the aristocrats and who eventually become the prominent citizens of Jefferson. Understanding this, we can see that

William Faulkner.

"The Hamlet" is meant to describe the long, slow, wary, losing fight of the inhabitants of Frenchman's Bend against the first invasions of Snopeses. The obscurity that beclouds this at count is not stylistic, howeve When Faulkner deals with th blossoming of the dream of th Old South, he is simple and direc When he deals with the rottin of the dream, with its repressio and the utterly decadent compen sations for its non-fulfilment then he is as difficult and deviou as the subconsciousness itself.

The Snopeses lie somewhere be tween these extremes. They ar not healthy-minded, like the ol Sartorises and Millards, nor ar they defeated and disintegrated like the Compsons and Coldfields of 1890. The souring of Ab Snopes has psychopathic results. Ike H-mope Snopes is an idiot who conducts a long and fantastic romance with a cow. There is Mink Snopes, who kills a man who won a judgment against him for pasturage, and there is Lump and Eck and I. O. Snopes. Theirs are relatively minor manias, the unbalance of angry, untutored, vigorous men, and not the terrible acknowledgment of futility. And so Faulkner deals with them openly and with some clarity. Whatever confusion there is results from oblique observation, from an unwillingness to reveal the antecedents of personal pronouns and from the sheer profusion of Snopeses.

Every twenty or so pages a new Snopes turns up. Just as the group of porch-sitters, through whose oblique comments the story is told, has classified and gotten properly wary of each new arrival, still another Snopes appears. The comment is salty enough, but, as in the talk of men who know each other well, the point will often hang upon a slight gesture or a mild inflection.

While the book as a whole does not cohere, sections of it are rich with anecdote, and in his horse-trading yarns Faulkner reveals a sense of humor which we had no cause to suspect.

Human Erosion

AN AMERICAN EXODUS, by *Dorothea Lange and Paul S. Taylor. Reynal & Hitchcock. $2.75.*

THIS volume is grimly and appropriately subtitled "A Record of Human Erosion." Its documentary film technique is that of Margaret Bourke-White in *You Have Seen Their Faces;* its subject matter is that of John Steinbeck in *The Grapes of Wrath.* The combination is overpowering. We begin our still-picture journey in the Old South: the poverty-stricken Negroes in the fields of Alabama, the young Georgia sharecropper on $5 a month "furnish" ("A piece of meat in the house would like to scare these children of mine to death"). The same story of filth and human degradation, the heartbreaking story of slums and rickets, as we move west to Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas ("They come off the plantations 'cause they ain't got nothin' to do. . . . They come to town and they *still* got nothin' to do"). . . . And then the dust bowl, the migrants on U. S. 66 ("I'm goin' where the climate fits my clothes"). . . . Texas, poll taxes, the men with puzzled faces ("Where we gonna go? How we gonna get there?"). . . . And at last California, the land of golden promise, with the sleepy Oklahoma child carrying the cotton sack to the fields at 7 a.m., and the family of eleven children with the prematurely old father saying, "I've made my mistake and now we can't go back. I've got nothing to farm with." The company shacks, the pickers in the fields, the vigilantes. . . . And finally the beginnings of organization, with the alert faces in the meeting hall, the Tom Joads in the front seats. These are Americans, hundreds of thousands of them, in our own time and in our own land. A record of human erosion—and Mr. Roosevelt cuts down on WPA to send planes to "poor" Finland. It is enough for bitter tears—and action. M. W. D.

Study Shows Most Race Immigrants Not Africans

NEW YORK, April 19—(ANP)—"The Negro Immigrant," a study made by Dr. Ira De. A. Reid of Atlanta university and published recently by the Columbia university press here, indicates that few of the 100,000 foreign born Race members in the United States are either "Africans" or "blacks."

Mr. Reid, reporting that Race immigrants to this country come mostly from the Caribbean area, said that they represent a polyglot collection of racial mixtures.

Debunking the belief that West Indian Race members are more intelligent than natives, Mr. Reid said they have developed an almost exaggerated interest in higher education as an avenue of escape and that those who immigrate from the Indies are of a higher class than the average.

Peonage Committee Gets Out Pamphlet On South

Peonage in Oglethorpe county, Georgia, and the oppression of millions in the deep South are described in a brand new pamphlet of the Abolish Peonage committee, "Peonage — 1940 Style Slavery," by Harold Preece.

Orders are being accepted by the Abolish Peonage committee, Room 610, 192 north Clark street, Chicago.

Plan Club To Circulate Negro Books

Chicago, May (ANP)—Barefield Gordon, book reviewer, is planning to issue books of distinctive Negro literature for the sole entertainment and education of Negroes without regard for the tastes and desires of the white market, he announced recently.

"Too long," declared Mr. Gordon, "have Negro authors and readers depended upon the good graces of white readers to supply them with stories of Negro life and studies and biographies of famous Negroes. Father Divine can find a ready market among white readers—their stories are told. But our educators, business women, and ministers, and many other unsung heroes of humble success live and die, their merits unheralded."

Gordon has organized the Book Guild of American Negro Literature, Inc. and is searching for books, fiction and non-fiction, slanted toward the untouched Negro public, they stated. Such a book is his first selection, "Mississippi Saga" The Autobiography of A Mississippi Railroad Worker. Herein is recorded the struggle and trials of a simple Negro laborer who succeeds in fitting into the very trying life of Hattiesburg, Miss., after traveling from as far north as Illinois. Rejected in a Liberty Magazine contest, the manuscript was accepted because it is believed to be a story that the Negro public will want to read whether the white readers of Liberty would care to read it or not. No date has been given for the volume's appearance.

Those persons interested in submitting manuscripts or getting information may write the Book Guild of American Negro Literature, Inc., 3560 South Parkway, Chicago. Six books are planned to be published a year at club rates.

Atlanta [illegible]
September [illegible], 1940

Quite Readable.

DUSK OF DAWN, by W. E. B. Dubois. Harcourt, Brace & Co., New York. 334 pp. $3.

This is the autobiography of the Negro author and lecturer, formerly professor of economics and history at Atlanta University. Since 1909 he has been director of publications for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and also editor of Crisis. Now 72, he surveys a long and active career. It is noticeable to the average reader that the bulk of the discussion is devoted to issues that now seem obsolete—such as the author's crusade against Booker T. Washington, and an extended discussion of anthropology which, while sound enough, was current some 20 years ago. Possessed of a great deal more vehemence than is customarily found in works of this character, the author of "Black Reconstruction" is nonetheless quite readable.

OLE H. LEXAU.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Pamphlet Reveals Minority Ballot Right Restrictions

Civil Liberties Union Study Bares Many Methods Used by Reactionaries to Interfere With Electorial Rights of the People

To overcome the local obstacles encountered by minority political parties in getting on state ballots in the national election, the American Civil Liberties Union yesterday released a pamphlet study of state laws affecting nominations as a basis for action in the 1941 legislatures.

The pamphlet is being submitted to the Commissioners on Uniform State Laws with a request to consider adoption of a model provision to insure getting minority candidates on the ballots without unreasonable restrictions.

According to the Civil Liberties Union, the state laws have been tightened up in recent years creating particular difficulty for the Socialist, Communist and Socialist Labor Parties. Instances are cited from thirteen states where difficulties have been particularly acute.

The pamphlet is being circulated among leaders of minority parties, civil liberties lawyers and state election officials.

The chief difficulties encountered in getting minority party candidates before the voters, the Union's survey reveals, are:

"The prohibitive number of petitioners required in some states, and strict requirements for accepting names.

"The provision that no petitioners shall have registered in a primary of any other party—thus preventing voters from changing party connections during a campaign after a party primary has been held.

"Provisions for state conventions for nominations which require either too high a number of participants or too wide a distribution of party members throughout the state.

"The obvious difficulty of voting for candidates by writing in their names, which is permitted in most states, though in some that practice has been held to constitute a mutilated ballot. In states with voting machines, the writing in of names encounters serious obstacles."

The survey includes an analysis of election laws in the various states

Memphian Writes Of Old Plantation

CONFEDERATE GREENBACKS. By Julia Tigner Noland and Blanche Connelly Saucier. The Naylor Co. $2.

This is the story of the childhood of a Memphis woman, Mrs. Noland, spent on a plantation near Woodville, Miss., in the 1870s and 1880s. Told with the simplicity that marks good reporting, it is a personal story that might have been written by any girl who grew up in similar circumstances in the South during the immediate post-Civil War period. It is the recalling of incidents and events that stood out vividly in the mind of a child.

Because each of us has our own cherished childhood memories, and because the book covers a fascinating period, grownups as well as children will find it entertaining. It lacks plot and drama, but it is not without charm. Events Mrs. Noland recalls are never momentous, but they are homey and occasionally humorous.

The Noland family has a distinguished lineage in Mississippi. Mrs. Noland's father, Capt. Thomas Vaughan Noland, served in the Civil War and was one of the framers of the Mississippi Constitution of 1890. Her grandfather was one of the founders of Oakland College. Her husband, McWillie Noland, was the grandson of William McWillie, Governor of Mississippi in 1856. Mrs. Saucier formerly taught at the University of Mississippi and is a niece by marriage of the author.

WALTER DURHAM.

JOSEPH E. BROWN AND THE CONFEDERACY. By Louise Biles Hill. University of North Carolina Press. $3.50.

"Who the devil is Joe Brown?" demanded Robert Toombs of Georgia, on being told in 1857 that the Democrats of his state had nominated someone by that name for governor. If the modern reader is inclined to echo the question, it is because the legend of the Confederacy has caused all but the best-informed to forget how large a part internal politics played in its defeat. Burton Hendrick, in his "Statesmen of the Lost Cause," used the intransigent Governor of Georgia as an example. Now comes a minutely documented account of Brown's whole surprising career. He broke all precedent by serving four successive terms, triumphantly reelected by the people of a state undoubtedly devoted to the Confederate cause, although his bickerings with the Confederate government were a scandal verging on treason. "That Brown was important in the failure of the South to achieve independence seems obvious," says Miss Hill. In view of the evidence and the importance of Georgia both geographically and economically, one can only agree. But one is left still wondering about Brown's motives. The fact that as soon as the war was over he became a Scalawag and then a Bourbon Democrat, proceeding from a judgeship to a career in the United States Senate, would lead one to the conclusion that he had always been a Union man at heart if one did not know that before 1861 he had been one of the principal Secessionist firebrands. Perhaps he was merely an unashamed seeker after personal aggrandizement after all.

Men Against Men

Dr. Benedict's Research Into the History of Racial Conflicts Is Both Scholarly and Absorbing

RACE: SCIENCE AND POLITICS by Ruth Benedict. Modern Age Books, New York. 275 pp., $2.50.

What Hitler has written about race seems puerile in the light of this book. The author is deeply scientific, thoroughly learned and a profound researcher. She convinces the reader that even if mankind consisted of only one race, bitter clashes would occur just the same; because one man or one group is constantly scheming to exploit people, for his advantage and their disadvantage. The exploited form a hatred for the exploiters, and this brings on conflicts. When the exploiting cannot be done fast enough or completely enough in ordinary business methods, force is used and outright robbery and murder are committed in the name of war. The ruling powers are eager enough to foment the wars for the sake of the pillage and to divert attention from sad conditions of their government.

Dr. Benedict reminds Hitler that "Aryan" is the name of a composite language, and not a race of people; and so also with the word "semitic." It relates to language and not to a race. She also shows him that his Nordics are badly mixed through generations of cross-breeding, and have little cause to boast of their "pure strain."

Civilizations have been built by mixed races, and while individuals in a race may differ considerably in capabilites, no race can assume that it has divine right to lord it over another race, for the averages in all races are evenly balanced, except when they are poorly and unfortunately environed, as in the case of the Negroes in the United States.

Cephalic indices, or bone measurements, show a vast likeness over the whole human family, except among the pygmies, who were isolated in their environment and could not cross with outsiders.

She thinks society starves itself, too, by grinding down people until a considerable portion become poor and helpless, unproductive and unconsuming. She thinks the United States' investment in social security has been highly profitable, for until man can get the idea of letting others live and have something to enjoy, conflicts and wars will continue, and civilizations will be built up and wiped out.

The story of man and his troubles, and who causes them is well told; it seems impossible for anybody to tell it better.—EUGENE ANDERSON.

DR. RUTH BENEDICT

First Complete Survey of Negro Here Published

the Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
OCT 6 1940

Statistical Study Compares Atlanta and Other Areas.

The first comprehensive statistical study of the economic and social status and the community organization of Atlanta Negroes, entitled "The Atlanta Negro," is just off the press and its 136 pages of graphs, tables and explanation contain a wealth ot material for further analysis.

Prepared by Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, chairman of the department of mathematics at Atlanta University, who was assisted by Marion M. Hamilton, the work also shows how Atlanta's Negro population stacks up with the rest of Georgia, the south and even the nation. The study was sponsored by the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education in co-operation with the National Youth Administration of Georgia.

Studies in population, comparisons of Negro economical status with the mean level of whites, birth and mortality tables, educational advantages and other data are treated in cold statistics and they tell their own story without comment by the editors.

Begun in February.

Work was begun on the project in February, 1939, and thus for the first time in Georgia a comprehensive study of the Negro is available as the basis of reference for libraries, research centers and students who wish to make a broad study of the subject.

With the 1940 census just around the corner, the authors used 1930 census figures in many of the comparisons, especially those of population, but the fact that the study is the first real attempt to treat a subject in which sociologists, economists, criminologists and others in the social field are interested makes it a valuable reference work and probably provides a foundation for future and more up-to-the minute comparisons.

The diversity of subjects treated will commend it to the student, who in the past had no starting point in his research, and to those who have wondered about various social aspects in the past without any authoritative yardstick to guide them.

90,000 Population—1930.

Based on 1930 census figures, Atlanta had a population of 90.075 Negroes, or 33.3 per cent of the total number living within the city limits. Birmingham had 99,077 Negroes, or 38.2 per cent of the popuation, and Memphis had a 96,550 Negro population, representing 38.1 per cent of its citizens. New Orleans came fourth with 28.3 per cent and Washington, D. C., fifth, with 27.1.

The Atlanta population climbed from 512 Negroes in 1850 to its 1930 total. In 1850 Negroes accounted for only 19.9 per cent of the city's population. The greatest percentage of Negroes in Atlanta was in 1870, immediately after the Civil War, when there were 9,929 Negroes, or 45.6 per cent of the 21,787 total population at that time.

From 1860 until 1870 the Negro population of Atlanta increased 412.1 per cent, while during the same period the white residents increased only 55.7 per cent. During the same period, Negro population in Georgia increased 17.1 per cent while whites increased only 8 per cent. In the United States, Negroes increased 21.4 per cent to 27.5 per cent for white persons.

Families in Wards.

Ward by ward distribution of Atlanta Negroes and white persons also make an interesting comparison, according to the 1930 division, which follows:

Ward	Negroes	P. C.	Whites	P. C.
First	19,358	33.3	38,749	66.7
Second	2,865	12.1	26,754	87.9
Third	36,745	60.2	24,277	39.8
Fourth	9,240	22.3	32,169	77.7
Fifth	20,696	39.1	32,266	60.9
Sixth	1,171	3.5	32,032	96.5

A study of the family size also shows some results which uninformed persons are ordinarily prone to exaggerate. For instance, although the Negro population is about one-third of the total, the following comparison with native white families is enlightening:

Family Size	Negroes	Whites
Four	3,053	8,100
Five	2,045	5,125
Six	1,364	2,883
Seven	874	1,526
Eight	561	802
Nine	291	419
Ten	173	191
Twelve or more	98	69

A distribution of Negro and white families according to wards showed the following:

Ward	Negro	White
First	5,104	8,170
Second	704	4,866
Third	9,326	5,022
Fourth	2,300	7,993
Fifth	5,749	8,031
Sixth	267	8,154

Educational Survey.

A study of educational facilities available for Negroes and white students from 6 to 18 years of age for the 1937-38 school year showed that the 18,167 Negro youths had 13 schools to 54 for the 36,54 white students, and that the per capita cost of educating the Negroes was $29.77, while it stood at $91.29 a year for whites.

The school population for the year was 54,715, of which 18,167 or 33.2 per cent, were Negroes. The average grade completed by the Negroes was 6.9, while it stood at 9.1 for whites.

Negroes, however, attended schools more regularly than did white children, with Negro attendance being set at 83.20 per cent, while white attendance was set at 76.87 per cent.

Illiteracy, however, is on the rapid decline in Atlanta and is being eradicated more rapidly in Atlanta than the average decline elsewhere in the south, as the following table shows:

Year	P. C. Atlanta	P. C. Georgia	P. C. South	P. C. U. S.
1910	20.9	36.5	33.3	30.4
1920	17.8	29.1	26.	22.9
1930	10.4	19.9	19.7	16.3

In 1930 there were 7,801 illiterate Negroes, or 10.4 per cent, as against 1,478 white persons, representing only 1 per cent of white population, but in 1938 the illiterate Negro total had been reduced to 1,469, or 1.6 per cent.

Number Employed.

A total of 26,332 Negro males were employed gainfully in Atlanta in 1930 as against 56,669 white persons, and a comparison of the major distributions also is listed in the study as follows:

Employment	Negroes	Whites
Manufacturing and mech. industry	9,272	17,685
Domestic and personal service	6,813	2,192
Transportation	656	5,265
Professional service	641	4,200
Trades	3,702	15,746

More Negro women were working during the same time that white women, the totals being 24,285 Negroes to 22,836 whites. A comparison of distribution of the major employments as between Negroes and whites follows:

Employment	Negroes	Whites
Domestic and personal service	21,869	2,335
Manufacturing and mechanical industry	1,111	4,035
Professional service	799	3,137
Trades	292	2,951
Clerical		9,152

Out of 37,887 Negro women 15 years old and over, 24,114, or 63.6 per cent, were gainfully employed in 1930, and of the 18,654 married women, 10,538, or 56.5 per cent, were working.

Income by Families.

Other figures were cited to show that the average mean income for 431 heads of families studied was $564.27.

The median value of the 3,653 Negro owned houses in 1930 was $2,653 each, while the comparative value of white owned houses for the same time was given at $6,129 each. A total of 19,509 Negro families rented their homes paying an average of $12.69 a month each, while the average monthly rent paid by Negro tenants in the United States was $13.04. The average rental paid by white persons in Atlanta is $30.67 a month.

There were 14,092 unemployed Negroes in Atlanta in 1930, of whom 7,785 were male. This compared with 14,729 white persons, of whom 8,774 were male. In 1937 there were 11,689 unemployed Negroes, of whom 5,829 were male.

Social Benefits.

The following comparative table shows how Negroes and whites divided benefits of the state social security program in 1937:

Type of Service	Negroes	White
Aid to blind	52	21
Aid to dependent children	37	241
Old-age pensions	692	616
Unemployable relief	2,315	1,886
Direct relief, as of November 1, 1937	1,534	1,108

Although Negro population in Atlanta is only about 30 per cent of the total city population as of 1937 estimates, births are slightly over 50 per cent of the total births, and the death rate is almost equal to the whites.

Rate of Births.

In 1937 there were 2,169 Negro births as compared to 4,006 white births. Deaths totaled 2,140 for Negroes, with a population of 109,205, as against 2,341 white deaths out of a population of 209,986.

A comparison of Negro and white births for the years 1930 through 1937 follows:

The
OCT 6 1940
Constitution

Year	Negro	White
1930	1,808	3,493
1931	1,761	3,552
1932	1,966	3,474
1933	1,924	3,178
1934	1,939	3,578
1935	1,958	3,583
1936	1,904	3,702
1937	2,169	4,006

Illitimate births for the years 1935, 1936 and 1937 showed the following:

Atlanta, Ga.

Year	Negro	White
1935	376	98
1936	366	73
1937	427	77

Deaths by Disease.

In 1936, 2,511 Negroes died from infectious diseases, as compared to 5,115 white persons, and in 1937 Negro deaths from the same causes were 2,871, as against 7,326 whites.

A total of 1,049 Negroes had syphilis in 1937, while 1,102 whites were infected, and in 1936 the Negro total was placed at only 763, as compared with 1,021 whites.

Tuberculosis was more prevalent among white residents for the years 1936 and 1937, with 318 Negroes and 332 whites having the disease in 1936 and 247 Negroes and 286 white persons in 1937.

Crime statistics failed to give a complete picture, but a comparison was carried as of January, July and from October 5 to October 20, 1937. It showed:

Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

Month	Negro Arrests	Total Arrests
January	1,090	2,336
July	1,291	2,718
October (Oct. 5 until Oct. 20, 1937)	534	1,057

Mobile, Ala., Forum Sun,
Sept. 18, 194-

TO PUBLISH BIOGRAPHY OF FREDRICK DOUGLASS

NEW YORK CITY — The Pathway Press, 200 West 129th St., has announced for fall publication a fine reprint of The Life and Times of Frederick Douglass, written by the great Abolitionist himself.

This book has a rare literary style and is packed with drama, tension aid the stark realism of the period of chattel slavery, It is a vivid and authentic estimate on the abolitionist movement, the Civil War and Reconstruction, and the customs traditions. and relations between master and slave, religion, education family ties and the real spirit of the period.

It is, moreover, a forceful and dynamic portrayal of the life of the great emancipator, statesman and patriot whose proper place in our history has yet to be established. Born in slavery on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Frederick Douglass embodied all the hopes and aspirations of an oppressed people fight- for liberty. His services to his people and country place him alongside of Lincoln and all the other great American who helped to steer the nation through the perilous crisis of civil war.

This new edition of The Lift and Times of Frederick Douglass will be the first in a series of similar works designed to bring forward the great geniuses of the Negro people and their contributions to the historic and present progress of the nation. New features include a foreward by the noted literary critic, Dr. L.D. Reddick, Curator of tre Schemburg Collection, N. Y. Public Library; a frontispiece in color, and illustrations by Aaron Douglas and Carl G. Hill.

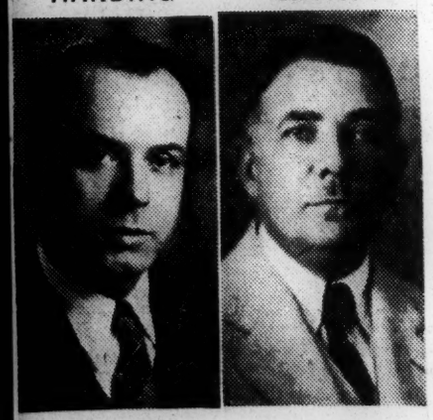
'Native Son' Over 215,000 Mark Within Single Week

Within one week of its publication the total number of copies of Richard Wright's "Native Son" [Harpers, $2.50] had passed 215,000, including the Book of the Month club copies.

Nashville Tenn. Banner
March 11, 1940

Noted Speakers To Address TEA Meetings

HARDING SMITH



LIVINGSTON PATTERSON

Among the out-of-state speakers scheduled for addresses before the seventy-fifth meeting of the Tennessee Education Association here, March 21-23, are Miss Bertitia Harding, born in Europe and brought to Mexico as a child, author of "Phantom Crown," "Golden Fleece," and a new book, "Imperial Twilight," soon to be published. She will address the general session of TEA in War Memorial Auditorium Thursday night March 21, on "The Power Behind the Pen," and the Council of Teachers of English, at Watkins Institute Auditorium, Friday, March 22, at 9:30 a. m., on "Mexico, the Lady Next Door."

T. V. Smith, congressman-at-large from Chicago, is a native of Southwest Texas, but has served as professor of philosophy at the University of Chicago for twenty years. He is the author of numerous books on politics and ethics, among them the "Democratic Way of Life," and the "Promise of American Politics." He will address the general session at Ryman Auditorium March 22 at 10:30 a. m., on "The New Federalism," and the administrators' banquet, Hotel Hermitage, Friday, March 22, at 6 p. m., on "Pedagogs and Politicians."

Everett G. Livingston, native of Kansas, holds a B.S. degree from the University of Kansas, and a M.S. degree from Iowa State College. From 1931 to 1938 he served as assistant professor of industrial arts at Iowa State College, and since the fall of 1938 he has been head of the industrial arts and chairman of fine and practical arts division at Georgia Teachers College. He will address the Industrial Arts Section, Hermitage Hotel, March 22, at 2:10 p. m., on "Education Through the Industrial Arts."

Dr. Caleb Parry Patterson, professor of government, University of Texas, received his B.A. degree at Vanderbilt University, his M.A. at Harvard, his LL.B. at University of Texas, and his Ph.D. at Columbia. He is author of "The Negro in Tennessee," and "American Government." He is also editor of Southwestern Social Science Quarterly. He will address the Social Science Section, Watkins Institute, Friday, March 22, at 2:10 p. m. on "The Pursuit of Happiness—The Jeffersonian Dream," and Saturday, March 23, will address the general session at War Memorial Auditorium at 10:30 a. m., on "The Relation of Liberty to Authority in the Modern State."

BOOKS

THE HISTORY OF LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

By W. Sherman Savage

While serving in the Union army during the Civil war, some Negro soldiers learned to read and write. Some of the young white officers who commanded these troops thought that such training should continue after demobilization. After talking it over they decided to establish something in the way of school for Negroes at Jefferson City, Missouri.

Although these soldiers received only thirteen dollars a month pay, they contributed liberally to a fund for that purpose. The officers gave generously. In this way a few thousand dollars was raised .

In an old run-down two-room building, on September 17, 1866 Lincoln Institute opened its doors to two pupils. However it was not long before the rooms were filled.

Great credit goes to R. B. Foster, former officer of the Negro troops, for his many years of hard work to establish this school.

Many White Teachers

There were only a few Negroes qualified to teach those who had been reared and educated in the north. But hundreds of young white men and women came south and spent many useful years working with colored children.

So Lincoln Institute was glad to receive such help in an unequal battle with ignorance and bewilderment.

Pay was uncertain. There were hard baffling problems. The first hard problem was to convince the white people, who had the money, that Negroes really were worth education. Then to convince the Negroes that they could and should learn was another problem. Another was the inevitable bickering, the 'backbiting, 'double crossing among them. Tearing down each others work consumed a lot of their time and energy. Then too, as was the case with many schools, Lincoln was a kind of political foot ball.

Had Patience

Watching the progress of this school, from simple cirriculum to its present status of a good college we must stand in awe of the patience the vision, that nameless something that drives men and women with a noble cause.

Of all its presidents, special mention is made of Inman Edward Payne In fact a whole chapter is given to him because of the unusually high character of the man and his work.

In this book of 302 pages we find a lot of information, graphs, charts maps, photographs and so on.

The writer hopes that he may soon tell the public something of the fourteen hundred men and women who had graduated from the school.

Louise Glass.

QUEST FOR EQUALITY

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

By ROBERT S. ABBOTT

Founder, Chicago Defender

SECOND INSTALLMENT

MY CHILDHOOD was spent in Savannah, Ga. In the summer my folk went to live in the western section of the city popularly known as Yamacraw. It was here that the Race elite lived. The people of this section were more progressive and intelligent than those of other parts of Savannah. Winter and early spring would find us living on the outskirts of the city in Woodville, about three miles from the Savannah city hall.

Woodville in those days was an agricultural community where the inhabitants took great pride in trying to get the first bearing crops in the city market. A premium was offered on the first crop. Sometimes as much as $10 was paid for a quart of English peas. The farmers in Woodville vied with one another for this prize which was offered by the city markets to stimulate industry on the farms. As the crops began to flow onto the markets, prices dropped until in full season a quart of peas sold for 50 or 75 cents. The arrival of the first crop on the market was heralded with great rejoicing and celebration. The first strawberries and the first cucumbers went at high premiums.

Worked in Grocery Store

My summers spent in the city made it possible for me to hold odd jobs as soon as I was big enough to run errands. First I worked as an errand boy in a grocery store. When I became larger I got a job on one of the oldest newspapers in Savannah, "The Echo." This was my first contact in the field to which I devoted later my entire attention.

I worked there until a misunderstanding with the foreman made it imperative that I "hot foot" it home to my mother. My ambition, one day, overpowered me and I set out to perform a more complicated assignment than was my duty. As a result I scratched up the imposing stone on which the printer made up types, and dug holes in it with an awl. The foreman started after me, when he saw my handiwork, intending to "give me the works," but I beat it and took the nearest exit and the shortest cut home to mother.

Even at that tender age, the newspaper fever was in my blood. My next job was on a daily afternoon paper owned by Jonathan Stern and company. I remained with this firm until I left home.

When my stepfather built his church in Woodville, the family moved to the country permanently. There I attended the West Broad street school until I finished. I was then sent to Beach institute which was about four and one-half miles from Woodville. The courses there were equivalent to high school work and prepared students for college. I attended this school until I was ready to enter Claflin university in Orangeburg, S. C.

In COLORS
FULL PAGE PORTRAIT OF
Robt. S. Abbott
SUITABLE FOR FRAMING
Turn to Page 12

More than Magnolia

ORIGINS OF CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISIANA, *by Roger W. Shugg. Louisiana State University Press. $3.50.*

DR. SHUGG'S work is one of the most important monographs on American history that has been published during the last year. It possesses the essential virtues of a pioneering work—new sources, new facts, new interpretations. The author is interested in, and sympathetic toward, the masses of white people, farmers, artisans, mechanics, laborers. He therefore presents a wealth of material hitherto unavailable on standards of living, labor politics, unions, strikes, ruling class tactics, anti-slavery and anti-Bourbon feelings in Louisiana from the year 1840 to about 1880. His failure, however, to note similar tendencies in other Southern states weakens the force of his work, and his neglect of the Negro people (for he thinks they formed but "a racial caste rather than a social class") also seriously diminishes the work's value. Yet, even here, Dr. Shugg does present—contradicting his own statement—considerable evidence of independent political and economic activity on the part of the Negroes, strikes among the black workers, as well as joint political and union endeavors of Negroes and poor whites after the Civil War.

When a book coming from the press of Louisiana State University makes generalizations like the following, and proves them, one has witnessed a revolutionary event in American historiography: "It is obvious that the workingmen were becoming class-conscious on the eve of the Civil War and were groping their way toward some kind of protective solidarity." "Louisiana was, truth to tell, a slave state policed by gentlemen; and the masses, having no real voice in their government, received from it no benefit." And the history of Louisiana from 1861 to 1868 is perfectly epitomized by: "What began as a slaveholders' *coup d'etat* ended in social revolution."

It would, indeed, be well if we had a study like Dr. Shugg's for each of the other states. We would then really begin to know something about the struggles that have created America.

HERBERT APTHEKER.

N. Y. Is Abuzz Over 2 Books by Chicagoans

BY FANNY BUTCHER.

NEW YORK [Special Correspondence].—All New York is talking about two "runaway" best sellers—and both of them are written by Chicagoans! They are the young Negro, Richard Wright's "Native Son," a psychological thriller of crime and punishment, and "How to Read a Book," by Mortimer Adler, a book which every one seems to think is the gateway to a liberal education.

Mortimer Adler had just arrived in New York the day I talked to his publisher, who was frantically trying to catch up with the book's runaway popularity. Richard Wright had just left his publisher's office to catch a boat for Mexico in a desperate attempt to evade the consequences of the popularity of "Native Son," which made him feel almost as hunted as his hero.

The big literary tea of the week was given for the debut of a book most of which also was written in Chicago. It was the party her publishers gave for Susan Glaspell and her book, "Morning Is Near Us," the April choice of the Literary Guild. Miss Glaspell, unceasingly smiling as a couple of hundred faces milled into and out of her vision, confided to me that she had not let a single old friend know of her presence in Chicago while she was working on the book at her brother's house.

Harry Franck, who has written so many "vagabonding" travel books [but who roughs it de luxe these days in airplanes], was at the tea, not looking at all like the hero of "tramp" adventures, and Helen Hull was very dressy in a mink coat, both proving that literature pays. Isabel Paterson, the famous I. M. P., was busily engaged with Mr. Harry Scherman, president of the Book of the Month club, talking about the books which they are writing week-ends.

Miss Paterson is doing a novel which is almost completed, and Mr. Scherman a book on the order of his extremely fine popular exposition of economics, "The Promises Men Live By." The only trouble with his manuscript, Mr. Scherman said, was that since he worked on the book only on week-ends, each time he had to read over so carefully what he had written the week before to remember what he'd done that he was afraid he'd never get caught up with himself.

Last Thursday I went to a handsome literary-critical dinner party in honor of Vera Brittain, author of "Testament of Friendship," and her husband, George Catlin. Mr. Catlin, himself a writer of parts, declared that the "Union Now" proposal of Clarence Streit for the preservation of world peace and economy had become to certain Americans [and foreigners as well] the new international gospel, whose theme song was "Lead, Kindly Streit amid the encircling gloom." Incidentally I hear that a popular edition of "Union Now" is just off the press with the text revised and shortened.

Miss Brittain's publisher lives in a house which is probably unique on the island of Manhattan. It is attached to the offices of the biggest publishing firm in the United States—maintaining the patriarchial tradition of the past when the owner of a business lived literally beside it.

Author

A book written by ANDREW W. DARTON JR., principal of the Sumner school, in Lebanon, Mo., has been accepted for publication by Fortuny's Publishing company of New York. The book, entitled "Citizenship in War Time," discusses the place of patriotism in the education of present-day youth. Mr. Darton is a graduate of Lincoln university and is a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity.

Howard Sponsors Two New Books

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Fresh off the presses, two interesting volumes sponsored by the graduate school of Howard university have been made available to the public, and should, according to business men and students of racial affairs, be in the hands of every young Negro interested in progress.

One, "The Collapse of the National Benefit Insurance Company, a Study in High Finance Among Negroes" by James B. Mitchell, M. A., tells a story which has been bandied back and forth in newspapers for eight or nine years. Concisely and intelligibly, Mr. Mitchell presents the factors prior to the organization of the company and right on through to the final collapse in such a manner will prove instructive to those interested in business and interesting to those who like to read.

Woman Writes Science Book

ATLANTA, Ga., March 7—Special—An investigation made at the Mull Zoological Laboratory of the University of Chicago by Miss Bertie L. Scott, of the biology faculty of Spelman College, has been published in the "Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine," a University of Chicago publication. The study titled "Androgenic Effects From Percutaneous Administration in Castrate Rats" was directed by Dr. Carl R. Moore, and was aided by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to the University of Chicago.

Miss Scott earned her Bachelor's degree at Spelman College and her Master's degree at Atlanta University. She had a year's work on her doctorate at the University of Chicago.

Booklet Describes Housing Authority Program

"Rehousing Low Income Families in Seattle" is the title of a new leaflet just released by the Seattle Housing Authority. The booklet has been published in answer to the many requests for information by interested citizens, students, librarians and commercial houses.

Such questions as "What is the Seattle Housing Authority?" "What is the program of the Seattle Housing Authority?" "How is its program financed?" "Who will be housed in its projects?" and "Who will benefit by the program?" are answered. A thumbnail picture of local housing conditions, their costs and effects, is presented.

Illustrations include a photograph of a typical substandard dwelling in the city, and a sketch of a typical dwelling unit in the Yesler Hill public housing project, $3,000,000 development to be built this year. A roster of the directors and personnel of the Housing Authority completes the pamphlet.

....Copies are available at the Housing Authority offices, 711 Second Avenue Building.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

'Harlem To The Rhine' To Be Published Serially

Courier 7-27-40

Book, Written by Col. Arthur W. Little, Is History of New York's Famous 369th — Louis Lautier Handling Rights.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 25—The price the world is now paying for peace is due to "pussy-footing in the field of enforcement" of the Versailles Treaty, believes Colonel Arthur W. Little, soldier, author and publisher, whose book, 'Harlem to the Rhine," will be published serially soon in several newspapers.

"I was challenged recently at a dinner party on account of having been with the fighting forces of the United States in France 22 years ago," said Colonel Little. "The challenge was one of protest over our having gone into the armistice program instead of having gone on to Berlin with what would now be called a blitzkrieg campaign," he states, "and in connection with that challenge I was invited to express my feeling about the Treaty of Versailles and its iniquities.

"I spoke very promptly in answer to that challenge, and said that in my opinion the only trouble with the Treaty of Versailles was that it had not been enforced. The price the world the pussy-footing in the field of enforcement of the treaty."

Colonel Little served with the 369th Regiment, New York National Guard (the Old Fighting 15th), and his book is a history of that outfit from its organization to its victory parade up Fifth avenue upon its return from the Rhine after the First World War.

Louis Lautier, a Washington correspondent, has secured permission from Colonel Little for its serial publication in several newspapers to show the difficulties which colored troops will face in the event of a national emergency, if colored personnel is not increased in the Regular Army and trained in all arms and services of the Military Establishment in time of peace.

No date has yet been set for the beginning of publication of Col. Little's book, but Mr. Lautier plans to release the first instalment early in August.

The Negro in the USA

THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE NEGRO, *by Charles S. Mangum Jr. University of North Carolina Press. $5.*

New Masses

THIS work has considerable merit. By truly prodigious research Dr. Mangum has produced a definitive study of the contemporary legal status of the Negro in each state of the Union. His data are of great immediate pertinence and usefulness for they answer such questions as: Who is a Negro?—a problem indeed, since the definitions of the various states are not alike and even the same states have different definitions at different times. Precisely what discriminations exist against the Negro with regard to civil, property, and social rights, education, labor, and the franchise?

7-2-40

The book is an important addition to the growing literature describing the valiant efforts of the Negro people to achieve their complete liberation, for practically all of the hundreds of cases here cited arose through the initiative and militancy of Negro men and women seeking by court action to protect and expand their rights.

Newyork

Interesting facts appear. One learns of loopholes in the anti-Jim Crow laws of New York and Michigan, of a Mississippi act which makes the advocacy of social equality a criminal offense and thus withdraws from its citizens the guarantees of the Bill of Rights, and of a Georgia law requiring a written account of one's "racial" ancestry that would make Goebbels blush. On the credit side one may mention the too little known and too rarely invoked laws of Connecticut and Illinois which forbid the showing of plays or motion pictures ridiculing or casting reflections upon the Negro people.

7-2-40

While Dr. Mangum avows his abhorrence of the injustices detailed, he falls down on the problem of what to do about them. He refers, for example, to the one period of the South's history, that of Reconstruction, when the masses ruled and these injustices were declared to be crimes, as a "dark blot," and an "intolerable situation," and deprecates as dangerous any determined agitation favoring similar action today. Thus he alludes to "the inflamed eyes of race prejudice, or the no less inflamed eyes of anti-race prejudice," and one wonders just what kind of eyes the author favors. Nonetheless, Dr. Mangum's work is a distinct aid to clear vision and effective action for those who loathe the rulers who inflict such unspeakable degradation upon fifteen million Americans and for those who in their hearts have determined that this must cease.

HERBERT APTHEKER.

OLD NOTIONS BLASTED BY NEW BOOK ON NEGRO IN VIRGINIA

Bee 8-11-40

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 5—The twenty Africans who were landed at Jamestown during 1619, and their successors for many years following were not slaves but indentured servants. William Tucker, baptized at Jamestown in 1624, was probably the first Negro born in this country. The institution of slavery was not legally sanctioned in the Old Dominion until 1654. The first recorded revolt against slavery, moreover, was initiated by slaves themselves in the year 1687, and other revolts occurred before the Revolutionary War in 1776.

Chicago

These are some of the many, little known facts which are set forth in "The Negro in Virginia," first state history of the Negro, produced by the Virginia Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration.

Sponsored by Hampton Institute, the project employed an average of twelve highly qualified Negro research workers, writers and other white-collar personnel. They worked under the general direction of Mrs. Eudora Ramsay Richardson, State Supervisor of the Virginia Writers' Project.

Roscoe E. Lewis, of the Department of Chemistry at Hampton Institute, was primarily responsible for the book. He prepared the initial draft and later supervised the task of producing a book which upsets various ideas of the Negro in American life and is regarded as an example of what is possible in interracial cooperation and good will. Throughout every step leading to its production, Sterling Brown, former editor on Negro Affairs for the WPA Writers' Program, gave time, attention and his prestige in the field of American Literature to "The Negro in Virginia."

The book is something more than a history. Through nearly 400 pages, it not only delves deeply into facts little known to the American public and often neglected by historians but paints a social picture with bold strokes. The colorful folk-speech of ex-slaves themselves in the pre-Civil War sections of the book makes it stand out in vivid contrast to the usual historical reporting.

"The Negro in Virginia" is divided into four parts. First treated is the period that began with the landing of the first Africans at Jamestown and that ended with the Revolutionary War. Then comes the ante-bellum period, ending with the Emancipation Proclamation; then the period of the Reconstruction; and finally the contemporary scene.

One chapter deals with the Underground Railroad, principal means by which many slaves were aided to freedom. Rebellions and other forms of active protest initiated and carried out by free Negroes, white persons and the slaves themselves are described. These protests that spread throughout slave-holding states are held largely responsible for the freedom of a half million Negroes living similar to American citizens prior to the Civil War.

"The Negro in Virginia" devotes considerable space to the Negro as an important factor in the economic, industrial, civic and cultural life of the Old Dominion and of the deeper South. Employing simple, direct, but powerful style, the book analyzes the Negro as a field hand, a creative artist, a coal miner, a business man, a munitions worker, a journalist and a soldier. The Negro's work in education, in religion and in the founding of fraternal organizations is discussed.

More than fifty illustrations, including rare prints and photographs, are grouped under four sections of the book entitled "Out of the Past," "City and Farm," "Education and Music" and "A Living to Make." Of considerable interest are the photographs originally taken by W. Lincoln Highton, of the Federal Works Agency's Photographic Division, and Robert McNeill, young Negro photographer of Washington who served as photographic consultant for the Virginia Writers' Project. Several early photographs, taken by the celebrated Matthew Brady, are also reproduced.

William H. Moses, Jr., architectural instructor at Hampton Institute, drew the tailpieces for the book and the pictorial map used as front and end papers. Sources for other pictures published in "The Negro in Virginia" are the U. S. Army Signal Corps, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Farm Security Administration, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the Scurlock Studio, Washington, D. C.

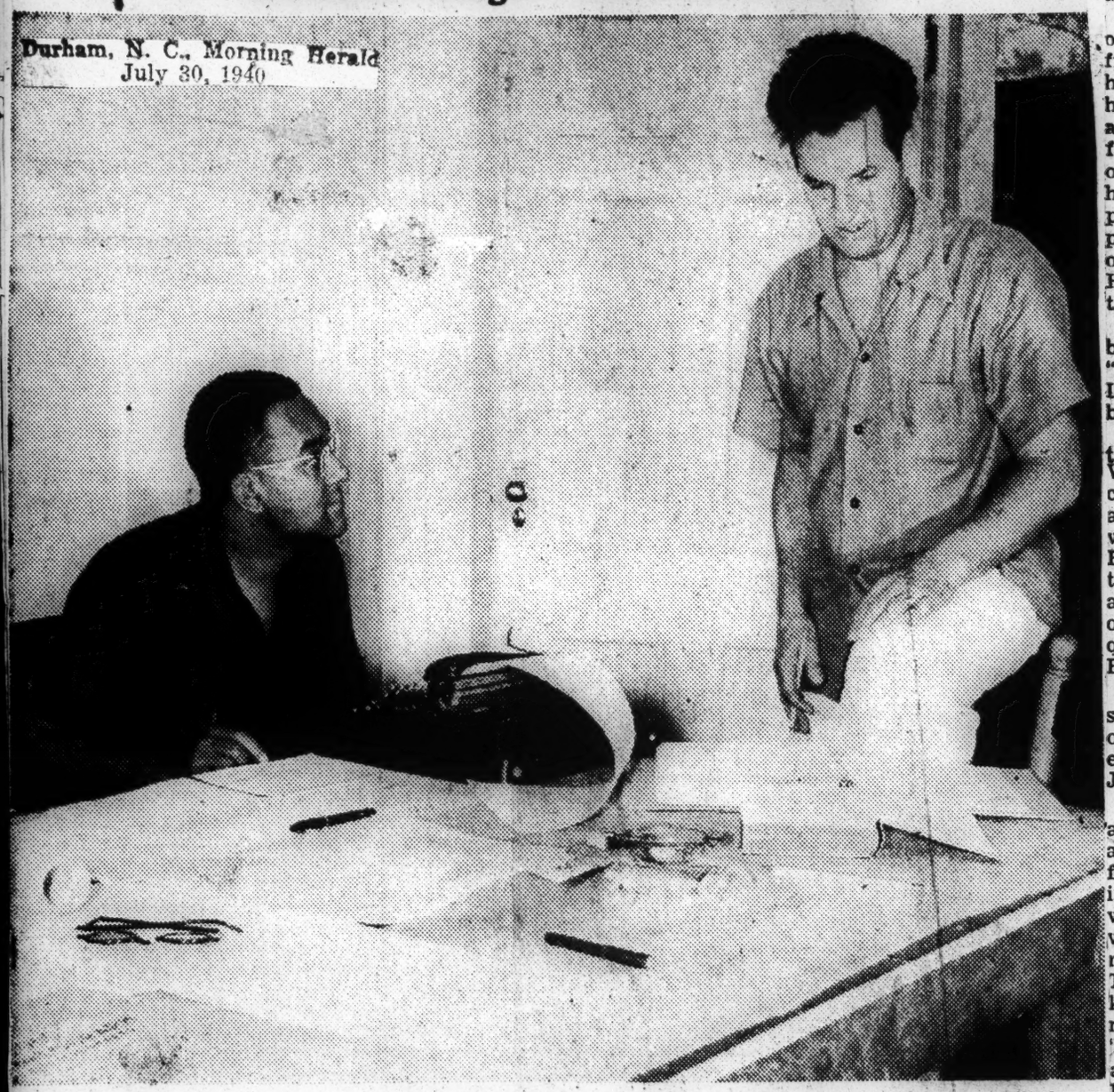
"It is appropriate," says Roscoe E. Lewis in the preface, "that the first WPA State book on the Negro be produced in Virginia for here the first African natives were brought and held in enforced servitude, and here also, more than two centuries later, freedom for some 5,00,000 of their descendants was assured on the surrender grounds of Appomattox.

"In a real sense," he points out "the story of the Negro in Virginia is also the story of the American Negro, for the roots of more Negro families were nurtured in Virginia than in any other state. It has been our aim to tell impartially of the springs that watered those roots and of the droughts that withered them. It is, therefore, to the American Negro, and to those who seek to understand him, that this volume is offered as the written record of a people who have helped build America—a people who are perhaps the most widely discussed and least understood, though by no means the least important, element in America's racial potpourri."

The book was published by the New York firm of Hastings House.

Richard Wright And Paul Green

Durham, N. C., Morning Herald
July 30, 1940



The two authors above work on a dramatised version of Wright's "Native Son." The play will be finished this Fall and will be produced on Broadway by Orson Welles and John Housman.

'Native Son' Author Says Slump Wrecked Illusions

31-Year-Old Richard Wright Speaks At White Rock Baptist Church—Collaborating With Paul Green In Producing Dramatic Version Of Book

Stripping illusions from the minds of the people and forcing them to recognize their plight was the work of the 1929 depression, according to Richard Wright, Negro author of the best-selling novel "Native Son," who spoke Sunday night at the White Rock Baptist Church under the sponsorship of the Durham Negro Youth Council.

The 31-year-old author explained that he was a member of a school of writing which has grown up since the depression started and had as its object the protrayal of the influence of society on the personality of the individual.

"Since I am a Negro, I write about Negroes," Wright said simply. "I write of how they have been crushed, twisted, degraded by their environment." He added that John Steinbeck, author of "Grapes of Wrath" might be classed as a member of the same realistic school of writers who center their attention on the influence of the environment on the individual. Wright believes that the work of Steinbeck in portraying the misery of poor white people was a distinct help to his own work. "People are beginning to sense a community of interest and the possibility of a community of endeavour," he explained.

"I hope," continued the author, "that a large corps of Negro writers spring up, as many individual writers and poets have already sprung up, who will center their attentions on Negro people, on their problems and conditions. Perhaps if enough books are written to explain certain conditions, political and social action will be taken to eliminate them."

Wright is at present collaborating with Paul Green, famous Chapel Hill playwright, author of "In Abraham's Bosom" and the current-ly popular "The Lost Colony," in producing a dramatic version of "Native Son." First drafts of the play have been completed, Wright said last night, and the completed work is due for production some time in the Fall. Orson Welles and John Housman are co-producers. "There will be no compromise, no omissions in the play version," the author said.

Certain long reflective passages of the book will have to be modified slightly for dramatic effect, however, but Wright said that he had complete confidence in Green and the producers to keep the play faithful to the underlying theme of the book. He added that so far he had nobody at all in mind to portray the main characters. "I plan to leave most of the selection of the cast to Green, Welles and Housman. I know very little about the theatre," Wright said.

Nothing about Native Son is autobiographical, according to Wright. "I always begin to get funny when I write about myself," he said. "The book is entirely imaginative."

The topic of the Negro author's talk last night was "How Bigger Was Born." Bigger Thomas is the central character of his book. He is a young, uneducated Negro boy who appears to be instinctively bad. Rebellious, a bully with no ambition, Bigger is intended to represent an individual twisted by his environment. Particularly resentful, but quite hopeless in his resentment, is Bigger of white people.

The "Bigger" of the book, Wright said in his speech, is a composition of several "Biggers" he has known ever since he was a boy of seven in Jackson, Miss.

"A big bully of a Negro came along one day and took my marbles away," Wright relates. "That was the first 'Bigger.' Later I remember seeing another 'Bigger' sitting in the white half of a street car. I saw a white man tell him to get up and move back to the Negro section. Then I saw this 'Bigger' draw a knife and threaten to kill the white man if he came near him. Another 'Bigger' who consistently violated all the laws of the city in which he lived said plaintively one day, 'White folks don't let us do nothing!'"

Out of this long succession of individuals who were either shot, maimed or came to some other violent end, Wright built up his character to represent a Negro personality reacting to his harsh environment.

The author is now at work on a book about Negro domestic workers in New York. He says that it will be at least a year before it is ready for the publishers. "Stylistically it will be the same," he said. "And of course the same general underlying theme of registering society's influence on personality will be in it. Also I intend to put several educated Negro characters in it. I have been criticized in the past for not using educated Negroes in my books."

Wright said that recently, as he travelled through the South, he had noticed that jobs formerly held by Negroes were being taken over by whites. "Even railway porter's jobs," he said. Commenting that this was a selfish movement to employ as many whites as possible, the author said he thought it was also a self-defeating movement. "It is no solution to the main problem confronting everybody and only increases the burden the Negroes must be on charitable and city and government relief agencies."

Wright was equally condemnatory of the theory of many successful Negro business men that through Negro business lies the way to Negro emancipation. "It is obvious," he said, "that Negroes cannot begin to provide enough jobs for Negroes."

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
July 24, 1940

Memphis Negro Is Author

A book entitled "An Economic Detour," written by M. S. Stuart of Memphis, vice president of the Universal Life Insurance Co., and historian of the National Negro Insurance Association, has been published by Wendell Malliet & Co. of New York. The book is a history of insurance in the lives of American negroes.

His First Book

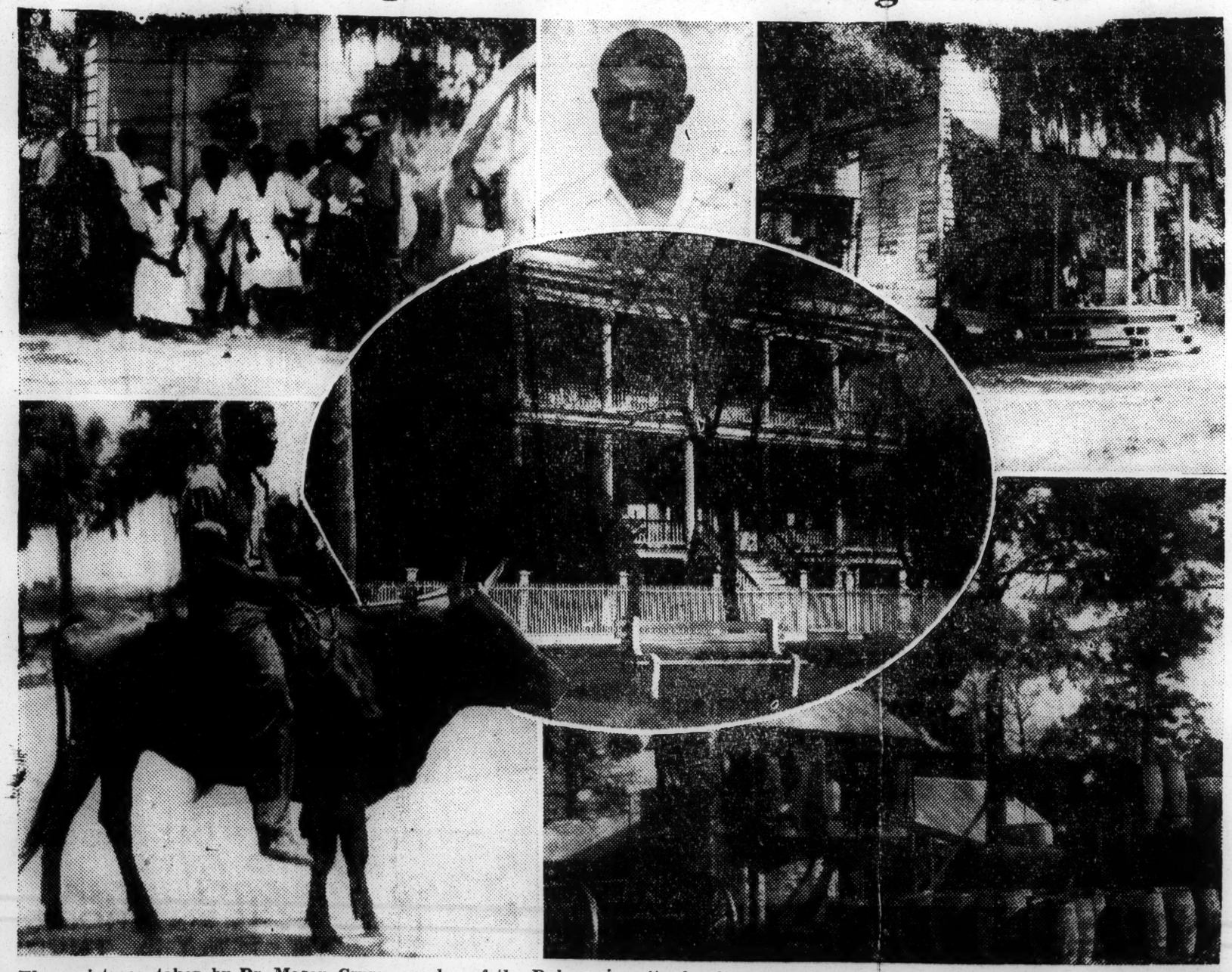
DEC 13 1940

Robert E. Hayden, young Detroit poet, whose first book, "Heart-Shape in the Dust," will appear this week. Mr Hayden's work has attracted the attention of many critics, including Arthur B. Spingarn and the late James Weldon Johnson. Poems by the 27-year-old poet, many of them on Negro themes, have appeared in important publications throughout the country.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Greenville S. C. Press
December 1, 1940

'These People Make Interesting Friends'



These pictures, taken by Dr. Mason Crum, member of the Duke university faculty, suggest something of the character and environment of the Gullah negroes of the South Carolina low country, described by Dr. Crum in his recently published 350-page book, "Gullah," issued by the Duke Press. At the top left are shown a group of Edisto Island "looking down the lonesome road." The top center picture shows a typical sea island farmer, descended from one of the tribes of the west coast of Africa. "Amiable in disposition, and courtly in manner, these people make lovely friends," Dr. Crum declares. A country store in the Gullah country is shown at the top right. Here customers are always loitering about the porch, engaged in friendly conversation and banter. Feminene gossip is "she-she talk" to the Gullahs. The lower right picture shows how "the aristocrats ride." An antebellum home in Beaufort, S. C., overlooking the bay is shown in the oval. The lives of the whites and negroes have been closely intertwined and must be understood on the basis of this relationship, the Duke professor writes. At the lower right is a turpentine "still," the scourge of the Southern pine a generation ago, operated largely by negro "hands."

NEW YORK TIMES
New York, N. Y.
Dec. 22, 1940

NEW HAVEN NEGROES: A Social History. By Robert Austin Warner. 8vo New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press for the Institute of Human Relations. $3.50.

The rise of the Negro group in New Haven.

WRITES BOOK FOR TOTS

Miss Evangeline Harris, of Terre Haute, Ind., who recently released for publication, a book, "Stories for Little Tots," which depicts the part played in early American history by colored people. The book is written in simple style suitable for graded school use.

Gullah Negro Interesting And Hospitable Personality

Duke's Dr. Crum Offers Unusual Book On Low Country Blacks

By WILL KEY

DURHAM, N. C., Nov. 30.—Representing the purest African stock in America today, the Gullah negroes of the sea island and coastal plain country of South Carolina, are among the most quaint and picturesque groups in the United States. Their dialect (practically unintelligible to those unaccustomed to hearing it), their spirituals and religious attitudes, their cultural background, and naive philosophy have fascinated students and writers for many years.

It has remained, however, for Dr. Mason Crum, a South Carolinian who for 10 years has been a member of the Duke university faculty, to write a comprehensive, scholarly and yet intensely interesting and sympathetic book on these unique Americans and the environment in which they pass their simple lives. Dr. Crum's 350-page book, illustrated with many photographs of his own taking, was recently published by the Duke Press.

KEY TO RACIAL ISSUE

"In a very true sense," declares Dr. Crum, "the history of these people furnishes a key to the whole racial situation in America. In their isolation the Gullahs provide materials for an interesting social study. It is significant that nowhere on the continent can a purer African culture be found. Until recent years this whole area has been cut off from the rest of the world. The cultural and geographical isolation of these negroes offers an absolutely unique situation for the student interested in human relations. Socially, relatively few changes have taken place in their mode of living and their outlook upon life since the emancipation. The plantation pattern still exists to provide an interesting laboratory for the study of conditions which have long since disappeared in other sections."

But to Dr. Crum, who has visited among them each year for many years, the Gullahs are not laboratory specimens but among the most amiable, courtly and altogether delightful people one could wish to know. In them, too, he finds a poignant reminder of a day that has gone forever in the history of the South, for the lives of the negroes have so intertwined with the lives of the white people of the tidewater Southland that to understand either both must be understood.

A CURIOUS DIALECT

The Gullah dialect is one of the most curious in America. It is spoken in the area roughly encompassing the islands and littoral of South Carolina beginning at Georgetown and extending south through Charleston, Savannah, and the Georgia coast, each section with slight variations. In the early days negroes from different plantations were known by their peculiar accent. While the body of the dialect is English, its spirit is of the African slave coast, Dr. Crum says.

Gullah speech is distinctly different from the ordinary negro dialect of the South, that heard on the stage in the typical blackface comedy sketch or on the screen, the usual drawl, the inaccurate use of "you all" and the like, Dr. Crum points out. The author cites two other distinct negro dialects, the French Creole of Louisiana and the Mississippi delta, and the familiar dialect of Virginia, North Carolina, western South Carolina, middle and upper Georgia, and the Gullah patois of the South Carolina and Georgia coast. Dr. Crum points out that Uncle Remus stories of Joel Chandler Harriss are in the dialect of these areas.

Dr. Crum selects an excerpt from Gonzales' "Nobless Oblidge" that reveals intimate acquaintance with the subtleties of the Gullah negro's mind and speech. Following is a quoted paragraph from the speech of a slave named Joe who took great pride in belonging to Governor Duncan Clinch Heyward of South Carolina:

"Hukkuh yo' maussuh plant all dat rice en' t'ing ef'e yent wu'k?

"Eenty I tell wunnuh him lib een Walterburruh? Duh summuhtime 'e does dribe plantesshum now en' den fuh see how him crap stan'. Him dribe two hawss', en' de buckle on 'e haa'ness shine lukkuh gol'. One nigguh duh seddown behine 'e buggy wid anwo 'e nan' for' be-for'um lukkuh hog tie. Mass Clinch hab on one kid glub 'pun 'e han' wuh come to 'e elbow. W'en 'e git Cumbee, 'e light out 'e buggy. T'ree nigguh' run up fuh hol' 'e hawss' head. Mistuh Jokok mek'em uh low bow. Mass Clinch iz uh berry mannussubble juntlemun, alldo him iz quality, en' him 'spon' to de bow. Den 'e biggin fuh walk. Him hab shishuh rich walk! Den 'e cock 'e hat one side 'e head. You nebbuh see nobody kin cock 'e hat stylish lukkuh Mass Clinch. Den 'e onbutt'n weskit. 'E pit 'e lef' han' een 'e britchiz pocket, en' swing 'e walkin' stick een 'e right han' en' biggin fuh quizzit him ob'shay. By dis time 'e git 'puntop de baa-nyaa'd hill en' look obuh 'e fiel'."

WRECK ENGLISH

While the Gullahs have made a "perfect wreck" of English, violating every rule of grammar, their meaning is unmistakable and in the process have come some of the most homely and the same time piquant idioms in the language. The Gullahs cut speech down to a minimum, take every shortcut available, but preserve the elemental needs.

Spirituals of the Gullahs are traced by Dr. Crum, who finds the African element in many of the purest ones. Even lines and stanzas that are unmistakable borrowings from the revival songs of the whites have their clear indication of negro philosophy, psychology, and artistic bent, he finds.

Aside from its study of the Gullah negroes, Dr. Crum's book comprises a realistic description of the South Carolina low country, with which he is so familiar, its swamps, rivers, farms, and woods and the animal and bird life that is so essential to the complete picture.

Out of his study of the region and people about which he writes Dr. Crum makes two observations:

"(1) One of the most pressing social needs in the South today is the discovery of some rational basis for a better understanding of racial problems. It appears that we need to establish some procedure by which the two races may cultivate attitudes which will lead to a mutually sympathetic understanding of the desires and purposes of each; (2) it is obvious that such an understanding cannot develop from the conventional patterns of thought and the emotionalized attitudes which each group has inherited: These new attitudes must be built upon the solid foundation of knowledge and the appraisal of facts. Too long have both groups resorting to sentiment and emotion, received as a reward the host of irrational prejudices which easily follow. The theorist and the fanatic have had their day: it is now time to take stock and view the problems in their wider historical perspective. Young people of both races need to know more about the social history of the American negro and his interesting and often intimate and friendly relationships with the white people of the South. Southerners, white and colored, are acquainted only with the present difficulties and antagonisms and know little of the finer relationships which have existed all along. They might profitably take time to know more fully the interesting story of negro progress and the negro's contribution to American life in economics, in letters, and in art. Such an approach will do more to establish mutually helpful relations than all the loud protestations of the theorist and impatient idealist."

NATIVE OF S. C.

The author of "Gullah" was born at Rowesville, S. C., a small village on the coastal plain. As with all Southern boys of that period, his life was closely associated with the lives of the negroes. Vivid among his boyhood recollections are the many friendly negro families who lived in the whitewashed cabins near his home, who flocked to the village store on Saturdays to buy bacon and grits and calico, and who anxiously consulted his father when cotton was low and "rations" were high.

Dr. Crum completed his undergraduate work at Wofford college. He studied theology at Vanderbilt university, philosophy at Harvard, and education at the University of South Carolina where he received the Ph. D. degree. For a decade he has been a member of the faculty of the Duke department of religion.

Pre-War Tale

DEC 9 1940

SAPPHIRA AND THE SLAVE GIRL—*Willa Cather*—*Knoff* ($2.50).

This week appeared Willa Cather's first novel in five years. It is an immaculately written account of a few months in the life of a family in Virginia. The year is 1856. The family is that of sober, plebeian Henry Colbert and his subtle, suffering,

International

WILLA CATHER
Sapphira was wrong about Nancy.

tony wife, Sapphira. They live, well-supplied with slaves, a little beyond the edge of civilization, within the fringes of the mountains. Sapphira's widowed daughter, an abolitionist at heart, does good among the mountaineers and the slaves. Sapphira's husband, another, spends most of his time at the mill, earnestly reads Bunyan's *Holy War*. Sapphira herself manages the household from her wheel chair (she has dropsy), yearns for the good life in Winchester. Mainly the story is of her more & more elaborate persecution of the young mulatto Nancy, whom she wrongly suspects of bedding with her husband. At her lowest she invites her rakehell nephew Martin for a visit, assigns him Nancy as his personal servant. Colbert and his daughter help Nancy escape, unscathed, into Canada. In an old-fashioned epilogue Willa Cather, aged five, sees Nancy's return as a middle-aged woman.

Willa Cather could not possibly write a bad novel; but *Sapphira and the Slave Girl* bears witness that she can write a dull one. This dullness, though, is the sum of many honest virtues: a nicely formed story, characters drawn with delicate authority, sharp, evocative vignettes of Virginia living & landscape. The whole work has the well-made, healthful, sober clarity of a Dutch interior. And like many unexceptionable people who inspire neither more nor less than respect, *Sapphira* is not too dull to be pleasant reading.

BIBLIOGRPAHY- 1940

Alain Locke's Review Of Negro Literature For 1939 Is Featured

A thorough and penetrating review of all the Negro literature published during the past year, written by Dr. Alain Locke, Professor of Philosophy at Howard University, is one of the outstanding features of the January issue Opportunity, Journal of Negro Life.

In this review, entitled "Dry Fields and Green Pastures, Dr. Locke discusses the battle being waged between the realistic and the romantic authors in their efforts to produce an undistorted picture of Negro life. He shows a decided preference for the realistis approach, which he says results in a more truthly portrayal of the Negro's existence.

Among the books reviewed by him are "O Canaan" by Waters Edward Turpin; "Star Spangled Virgin" by DuBose Heyward; "Moses: Man of the Mountain", by Zora Neale Hurston; and "Let Me Breathe Thunder," by William Attaway.

Dr. Locke also surveys the year's output of Negro juvenile fiction, poetry and drama, and music.

Another interesting article appearing in the January issue of Opportunity is one entitled, "Negro Art In Chicago," written by Willard F. Motley of that city. This tells vividly of the struggles of a group of young colored painters and sculptors who are working earnestly for a place in the art world. Among those whose work is touched upon in detail by the author are Charles Davis, Bernard Goss, Eldzier Carter, Charles White, Ramon Gabriel, Chas. Sebree, and William Carter. The article is illustrated by photographs of paintings by some of these artists.

Richard Wright Novel Book of Month Choice

Richard Wright's forthcoming novel, "Native Son," is the selection of the Book of the Month Club for March, it is announced. Wright will be the guest speaker at a reunion of the students of the Writers' School on Friday, Jan. 26, at the Dalcroze School of Music. 9 East 59th St., preliminary to the opening of the regular term. The Seventh Session will open Monday, Feb. 5, and will include courses intended to prepare students for professional writing careers. Classes in creative, commercial, introductory and advanced short story writing will be taught by George Albee, author of "Young Robert" Mary Elting, Book Reviewer and Literary Agent and Myra Page, author of "Gathering Storm." Romantic Pulp Writing will be taught by Jean Karsavina, contributor to the better pulp magazines; the Technique of Verse Writing by Eda Lou Walton, author of several anthologies of verse and associate professor of poetry, New York University. Radio script writing will be given by George Asness, who directed the Radio Unit of the Federal Theatre and Playwriting by Barrie Stavis, author of "Sun and I." Ira Henry Freeman will give a course in Journalism and Lucien Zacharoff, author and feature writer will teach a course in Popular Article Writing.

A new feature for the Seventh term, Nan Golden, school secretary announced, will be a series of Sunday night lectures on current literature and problems facing writers today. Among the speakers are: Ruth McKenney, author of "My Sister Eileen" Albert Maltz, winner of the "O'Henry Memorial Award, 1939" Benjamin Appel, author of "Power House" Norman Corwin, Director Radio Programs, Columbia Broadcasting System and Henry Hart, author, critic and editor.

For further information apply to the Writers' School, 381 Fourth Avenue.

Favors Realism In Review Of Books Of 1939

Dr. Alain Locke Scans Literary Output For Opportunity Mag.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—A thorough and penetrating review of all the Negro literature published during the past year, written by Dr. Alain Locke, Professor of Philosophy at Howard University, is one of the outstanding features of the January issue of OPPORTUNITY, Journal of Negro Life.

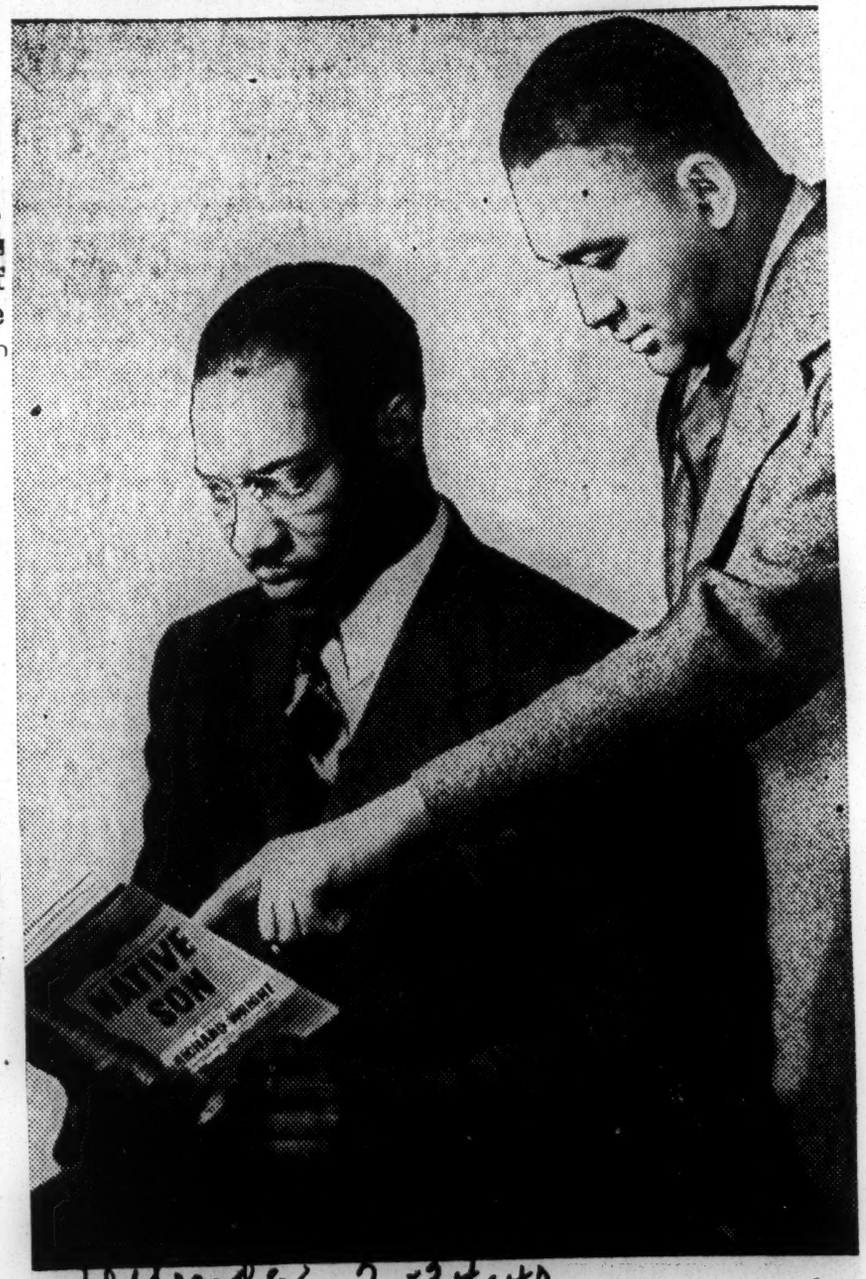
In this review, entitled "Dry Fields and Green Pastures," Dr. Locke discusses the battle being waged between the realistic and the romantic authors in their efforts to produce an undistorted picture of Negro life. He shows a decided preference for the realistic approach, which he says results in a more truthful portrayal of the Negro's existence.

Dr. Locke also surveys the year's output of Negro juvenile fiction, poetry and drama, and music.

Richard Wright To Speak

Richard Wright, whose latest book, "The Native Son" is the Book of the Month Club selection for March, will speak at the 135th St Branch of the New York Public Library on Thursday evening, March 7th, at 8:30 in the second floor lecture room.

WRIGHT SHOWS NEW BOOK



Richard Wright, author of "Native Son," which has been selected as the book-of-the-month for March by the Book-of-the-Month club, points to an eloquent passage in the new book which Ulysses S. Keys, left, well-known Chicago attorney, is reading. Wright, who is spending a week in the city spoke at Woodlawn A.M.E. church Sunday, and reviewed his book for a group at the home of Attorney Keys, Sunday evening.

Howard U. President Author Of Book.

Philadelphia

It might be a relatively easy matter for one of the belligerent nations to 'convince us that the cause which they represent is the very cause of God," according to Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, President of Howard University, in "Common Sense Neutrality, edited by Paul Comly French, which will be published by Hastings House January 15th. Philadelphia Pa.

"They might convince us," Dr. Johnson writes, "that their cause is a crusade for the liberation of mankind, and that it is a sin against God for us not to put all of our resources and our manpower at its disposal."

The views of Dr. Johnson's, one of the leading Negro educators, is among the opinions of twenty-five prominent Americans in various fields of activity on the vital question of keeping America out of the war in Europe contained in the book

MISSISSIPPI-BORN NEGRO WINS ACLLAIM OF LITERARY CRITICS

By ROBERT STURDIVANT

NEW YORK, March 4 (AP)—A 31-year-old Negro, whose grandmother predicted he'd end on the gallows, won the acclaim of book critics today for a novel about a Negro who did.

Richard Wright, author of Native Son—the Book-of-the-Month Club's March selection—was a "fighting, lying, stealing, Southern Darkie" as a kid in his native Mississippi, he says.

Through sheer will-power he rose from an environment of abject poverty and few opportunities. Now his life is devoted to helping others, black and white, to the respectability and opportunities they desire.

Native Son is the story of Bigger Thomas, a product of Chicago's Negro areas who never had an opportunity to prove himself a worthwhile member of society. In the end he kills, and dies for the crime. The book is a study of Negro psychology a fact which lifts it above the usual murder story.

Life Interesting

The author's life is equally as interesting.

He was born on a plantation near Natchez, Miss. As a child he lived in a Memphis, Tenn., tenement—a period during which the father absented himself for long intervals leaving the family destitute.

Later at Helena, Ark., young Wright "hung around the front doors of saloons" while his mother worked. Sometimes he picked up coal along railroad tracks, or sold papers.

Subsequently he spent periods with relatives in Mississippi and developed a distaste for school ind discipline. At 15 he struck out for Memphis named Beale street and got a job as a porter in an optical company.

"It was in Memphis that I first developed a taste for reading."

With the connivance of a friendly white man, who loaned him his library card, Wright set about obtaining an education.

'Negative Attitude' Hit

"The library, of course, was closed to Negroes. I simply took the card, wrote out notes requesting certain books and signed my friend's name. Then I went to the library, posing as his errand boy, and got the books."

He started writing in Chicago while working as a postal clerk and later as a counselor for a boys' club on the south side.

Wright deplores the "negative attitude" of social agencies which he says seek to adjust the unfortunate to their "environment" rather than improving it.

"We are rapidly developing a type of youth similar to the 'wild boys' of old Russia, living by loot and crime. Some day we may have to call on these boys to save somebody's democracy. so democracy had better start doing something about it now."

In the South, he said, the Negro's lot is "some brighter, but there is still a terrific amount of darkness."

Negro Writes Brilliant Novel, Remarkable Both as Thriller and as Psychological Record

"Native Son," by Richard Wright. [Harpers, $2.50.] Published last Friday. Dual choice of the Book of the Month club for March.

BY FANNY BUTCHER.

Unquestionably the most remarkable novel yet to come from the pen of a Negro is this tale of the crime and punishment of Bigger Thomas, a "bad actor" who murders once by accident, once by the compulsion of fear, who is hunted, caught, tried, and punished in a pattern as inevitable as it is powerful. "Native Son," judged from any point of view, is an astonishing piece of work.

Judge it by the directly opposite standards of a thriller and a psychological novel, and you will find it supreme from both points of view. In it murder is done in the coldest of cold blood, and a man is hunted down, and altho you know instinctively from the first sentence what Bigger's fate will be, so brilliantly does the author contrive his pattern that for the first two-thirds of the book no tale of pursuit and capture has rivaled it. The suspense is almost palpitant in its pages building up to a singlehanded night battle on a roof raked by searchlights and machine guns.

In the last third, which deals with Bigger's trial for his spectacular crime, the suspense is lessened altho the reader's interest does not suffer a let down.

—•—

Judge "Native Son" as a psychological novel, and from its opening scene, when Bigger kills a huge rat and brutally frightens his sister into a faint, Bigger's true self emerges from the author's skilful words and sentences until as the book closes there is nothing about Bigger that the reader doesn't know. In fact the reader knows not Bigger alone, but the whole psychology of a kind of hatred that is a part of the blood stream, so unconscious that it manifests itself in action and almost involuntary reaction and not as pure recognizable hatred.

—•—

"Native Son" as a thriller has the same quality that made "Escape" a spine chiller; as a psychological novel it has some of the quality, tho not to the same degree, that made "Crime and Punishment" a masterpiece of the author's impartial cold-blooded factual presentation. There is something terrifying about "Native Son" not only as a thriller but as a psychological record.

Another remarkable thing about the book is the conversation, which gives a stacatto urge to the plot There is constant talk here [action ir words] which is in exact accord with the psychology of action without thought—urges deeper than thought—which propel Bigger.

The scene of "Native Son" is Chicago's south side.

Tuskegee Ala. News
November 7, 1940

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER PRESENT IN "CURRENT BIOGRAPHY"

George Washington Carver, director of the Research and Experiment Station at Tuskegee Institute, appears in the November issue of Current Biography, cumulative monthly published by the H. W. Wilson Company. Dr. Carver deserves a place among the celebrities described in the publication by virtue of his "distinguished service in the field of science." His contributions have gained for him such names as the "Wizard of Tuskegee," the "Negro Burbank," and "Columbus of the Soil."

Dr. Carver was asked to join the staff of Tuskegee Institute in 1898 by Booker T. Washington, and he has been there ever since. A complete sketch of his eventful career up to the present is included in the magazine.

Current Biography is the latest publication of the H. W. Wilson Company and is designed primarily for library use. Its monthly issues tell who's news and why and contain biographical sketches of outstanding men and women all over the world.

Rare History Of Africa Is Found In Hampton Library

Volume Dates Back To 1632; Believed To Be The Oldest

DEC 20 1940

HAMPTON INSTITUTE, Va.—(S N S)—Published in 1632, one of the oldest known histories of Africa has been found in the Negro collection of the Collis P. Huntington Library of Hampton Institute, it was announced by Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, neww president of the famed institution of learning for Negroes.

Daily World

Consisting of two volumes of more than 800 pages, this description of Africa during the earliest slave days was written in the Italian language by Leonis Africani. The two-volume set, in a perfect state of preservation, is now on exhibition in the George Foster Peabody room of the campus library. The only other set of this African history known to be in existence, is preserved in the rare documents room of the Library of Congress.

Atlanta, Ga.

ONE OF 5076 ITEMS

This valuable set of books is but one of the 5076 items listed in "A Classified Catalogue of the Negro Collection in the Collis P. Huntington Library," which has just been published by Hampton Institute. Mentor A. Howe and Roscoe E. Lewis, who compiled the publication under the Virginia Writers' Project, state in the Foreword that "the classification of the material in the Collis P. Huntington Library began as a necessary stage in the preparation of The Negro in Virginia. The many requests that have been made for source material on various aspects of Negro life have revealed an urgent need for a catalogue of this valuable collection."

Bibliographers have predicted that the publication of this Classified Catalogue will reveal the Negro collection at Hampton as on a par with or even superior to the famed Schomburg Collection of the New York 135th Street Library and the Moorland Negro Collection of Howard University.

Consisting of two parts, (1) The Negro in Africa, and (2) The Negro in America, the catalogue contains a Preface by Eudora Ramsay Richardson, State Supervisor of the Virginia Writers' Project, a Foreword by Mentor A. Howe and Roscoe E. Lewis, the compilers, and an authors' index to the items that have been classified, covering in all 291 pages.

The new publication makes available for the first time a complete reference bibliography to the vast amount of source material relating to the Negro that has accumulated in the Institute library since the school's founding in 1868.

During Hampton's early years, numerous philanthropists, many of them former members of various anti-slavery societies, turned over their libraries to General Samuel Chapman Armstrong for the use of the freedmen whom he was educating. Of especial interest in this collection are books containing the autographs of numerous famous Americans. Prominent names that are represented are those of Daniel Webster, Lysander Spooner, John Brown, William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Henry Ward Beecher, Abraham Lincoln, William Wilberforce, John M. Langston, Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Charles W. Chestnutt, Blanche K. Bruce and Booker T. Washington.

GOT MALONE COLLECTION

In 1908, George Foster Peabody, trustee of the school, secured the Malone collection of 1400 books for Hampton. In 1914 the entire Negro collection of Dr. Phil Broome Brooks, a prominent Negro physician of Washington, D. C., was given to Hampton Institute. In later years the various collections donated by friends of Hampton have been expanded by the purchase of several thousand books and pamphlets, some of them rare out-of-print editions, others contemporary writings by and about the Negro.

In addition to the 1632 African set, the Classified Catalogue of the Hampton collection includes first edition accounts of the slave trade written by the Royal African Company (1710), by Captain William Snodgrass (1734), by Francis Moore (1736), and by Anthony Benezet (1762).

Daily World

A rare 1838 edition of the poems of Phyllis Wheatley, the Negro writer of Massachusetts, is also of interest to students of the development and progress of the Negro in America.

HIS ORIGINAL SPEECHES

The Catalogue classifies the original speeches of Richard Allen, Frederick Douglass, John M. Langston, Booker T. Washington, and many other Negro leaders, and lists the 300-volume file of newspaper clippings relating to such topics as Negro towns, Negro disfranchisement, the Negro church, Negro labor, Negro inventors, Negro prize fighters, Negro actors, etc.

Atlanta, Ga.

A complete set of Paul Lawrence Dunbar's poems and Charles W. Chestnutt's stories and separate sections on contemporary poetry and prose by and about the Negro are included in the Hampton Institute Library Catalogue.

A force of Negro workers stationed at Hampton Institute and supervised by Roscoe E. Lewis, of the faculty, worked nearly two years in preparing the Classified Catalogue. In addition to Mentor A. Howe, co-compiler, other staff members on the project were Claude W. Anderson, Rone Sidney, Thomas Cotton, Frances Green, Lillei Williams, Elizabeth McCombs, Frances Langhorne and Mary Luo Lee. Miss Thelma Toombes of the Richmond, Virginia Writers' Project office and Mr Richard Kidd of Phenix School assisted in stenciling and assembling the Catalogue.

DEC 20 1940

Dr. MacLean has announced that this complete Catalogue of Hampton's Negro collection will be placed on sale at $1.50. Mail orders should be accompanied by ten cents postage. Hampton's president describes the Catalogue as "an excellent job well done and one that will be useful to librarians, bibliographers, and students of Negro history and Negro life in Africa and America. I would expect it to have a long, useful life with occasional revisions as items are added to the collections."

Dr. Locke Writes New Book On Art

Defender

DEC 28 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Dr. Alain Locke, professor of philosophy at Howard university and widely known art critic, author of several books on Negro and African art, has just had published by the Association of Negro Folk Education a comprehensive survey of the Negro in art.

Chicago, Ill

This book, "The Negro in Art," is designed to be of service to students of Negro art in all its aspects, as well as to artists and those professionally interested, who desire a collection of fine reproductions of the work of Negro artists and of the Negro subject in our art.

Mullings, S. C., Enterprise
December 26, 1940

'Gullah'—Negro Life in Carolina Sea Islands

By Mason Crum

The Gullah negroes, living among the decadent plantations of the sea islands and coastal plain of South Carolina, represent the purest African stock in America today. They are a part of a picture more nearly like that of slavery days than anything in contemporary Southern life, being only a few generations removed from their forbears in slavery. Their most distinguishing characteristics are a curious dialect and a quaint philosophy.

"Gullah" is the story of Carolina coastal life with the Negro as the chief character. It is essentially an introduction to the social history of these people. Because their lives have been so intretwined with the lives and fortunes of the white people of the section, the author has given a complete picture of life in the Carolina low country, not only as it is today, but as it was in the days when the rice community enjoyed financial prosperity and a significant culture. Woven into this study are certain aspects of contemporary Negro life, including the dialect, the spirituals, the Negro's experience as a child of nature, and his religion.

Mason Crum was born at Rowesville, South Carolina, a small village in the coastal plain of the state. As with all Southern boys of that period, his life was closely associated with the lives of the negroes. His real interest in the Southern Negro dates back to college days when he was deeply influenced by W. D. Witherford's book, "Negro Life in the South". Known and believed by many negroes because of his sympathetic interest in negro affairs, he is always welcome in negro churches and public gatherings.

Dr. Crum completed his undergraduate work at Wofford College, receiving his A. B. degree in 1909. Following his graduation, he studied theology at Vanderbilt University, philosophy at Harvard University, and education at the University of South Carolina, where he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Dr. Crum represents the best traditions and culture of the South, and his book is characterized by a thorough knowledge of his subject. and by an extensive and accurate scholarship.

For the past ten years he has been a member of the faculty of the Department of Religion of Duke University.

Publishing Company Honors Two Women Writers by Printing Limited Patron's Editions

DEC 27 194

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — A new departure in book publishing was announced this week by Wendell Malliet and company of this city. In an unusual effort to honor the forthcoming works of new writers, they announced the early 1941 publication of a "limited autographed patron's edition" of Katheryn Campbell Graham's "Under the Cottonwood" and "From My Kitchen Window" by Ruby Berkeley Goodwin.

The special editions of each book will be limited to 800 copies, autographed by the author, in which the names of subscribers or patrons will be printed. "Under the Cottonwood" will sell for $3 per copy; "From My Kitchen Window" will cost buyers $2. Publication date has been set for April 1, 1941.

The books themselves will possess the most attractive features known to experts of modern bookmaking. Excellent typography combined with fine printing and deluxe binding makes each book a treasured possession.

Saga of Negro Life

"Under the Cottonwood," a saga of Negro life by Mrs. Graham, is the life history of five generations of Stearns, a Texas Negro family who passed their lives under a huge Texas cottonwood tree, where neighbors met to discuss their affairs. The author, a favorite companion of her grandparents, has presented a complete view of the history, traditions, customs and folklore of the south. Containing no racial bitterness, there is no attempt to dramatize incidents but the reader is spellbound by the pathos, humor and tragedy of the Stearns' struggle for land, wealth and education.

All knowledge and experiences in the book, gleaned from the author's grandmother, who lived to be an octogenarian and her grandfather, made it possible for her to write of the family history from pre-Civil war up until the first World war.

Kansas City Mo.

Texan by Birth

Mrs. Graham, born in Paris, Texas, studied at Fisk university, pursued graduate studies at the University of Southern California, later became a teacher in the Los Angeles school system. She is co-author of a music study booklet for children and has contributed many articles for publications.

A member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, she is the wife of B. H. Graham, Supreme Clerk of the American Woodmen. She is the mother of one daughter, Benzell, a senior in high school.

Book of Poetry

The book by Ruby Berkeley Goodwin is an inspiring collection of poems by a Negro mother, author and lecturer of Fullerton, Cal. The book, according to Margaret Widdemer, internationally known poet and Pulitzer Prize winner, "is the sincere emotional expression of a woman who is an outstanding member of her race . . . They range from short domestic lyrics to longer poems of the social conflict. They possess honesty, fluency and warmth of feeling.

"'From My Kitchen Window' has a fine philosophy. The poems are especially notable for lack of bitterness and their vision of a better future . . . It is a volume shadowing forth a beautiful, acceptant and courageous character.

Author at 11

Mrs. Goodwin was born in DuQuoin, Ill., and graduated from San Diego State college. Her literary career began at the age of 11 when she became poet and society editor of her school paper. Winning a prize of $100 in a short story contest, she became inspired to following writing as a career.

Her first work was published in 1927. Collaborating with William Grant Still, she wrote 12 dramatic stories interpreting Negro spirituals. She has followed many lines of work in an endeavor to succeed as a writer. The mother of five children, she has found time to be a success with them.

Lecture engagements followed publication of an article on interracial problems; radio engagements have been frequent and her radio dramas have heard over various California stations. She is now writing an interracial novel, "Pure White," which will be published soon.

Mrs. Goodwin has traveled widely and while doing so has been a correspondent for numerous newspapers.

Reservations for the Patron's editions must be in Malliet and company's office, 209 W. 125th street, not later than January 31, 1941.

BIOGRAPHY OF Defender M. W. DOGAN A Chicago RACE CLASSIC

Young Contemporary Of B. T. Washington, A Real Educator

DEC 7 1940

By MELVIN B. TOLSON

Booker T. Washington wrote his personal story, "Up from Slavery," which serves as a monument to his theory of industrial education for Negroes.

A few weeks ago, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, the leader of the Negro intelligentsia who opposed the sage of Tuskegee, published his autobiography, "Dusk of Dawn," which reveals his racial philosophy.

Strange as the coincidence may seem, now comes a biography which vivifies the intellectual struggle of Negroes during 75 years of freedom.

When Booker T. Washington and Dr. DuBois were debating their theories of Negro education, out in the great Southwest their young contemporary, Matthew Winfred Dogan was building the first Negro college west of the Mississippi. His was a liberal arts college supplying the black belt with teachers, preachers, physicians, and civil-service workers.

Warmouth T. Gibbs, dean of A. and T. college, at Greensboro, N. C., has done the race a signal service in bringing out this story of Matthew Dogan, the dean of American educators, whose 45 years as president of Wiley college embrace the epochal period of Negro education.

President Dogan has traveled a long, hard road from the little town of Pontotoc, Miss., in the year 1863, to his present eminence. He came from heroic parents who bought their freedom, and worked with vision and courage to educate their children.

Someday a great poet will write the epic of those ante-bellum black folk who saw visions and dreamed dreams. Paul Laurence Dunbar shined shoes and wrote lyrics; Matthew Dogan polished the boots of white southerners in his father's barber shop and worked problems in mathematics and conjugated Greek verbs.

In those days white men thought that a miracle! It was a portent, a prophecy! I thought of that when I stood beneath the statue of Calhoun, the great slave advocate, in Charleston, S. C.

Young Dogan's father had heard of Shaw university, named in honor of Col. Robert Shaw, the leader of that immortal Negro regiment from Massachusetts. From this institution the son was graduated at the age of 24. Then began his professional career.

As a teacher of mathematics at the old Central Tennessee college, he established his reputation among white and colored experts in that field. But his chief work has been done at Wiley college.

Mr. Gibbs covers this period with illuminating details. As a result, the personality of his subject and the problems of higher education for Negro youth emerge concretely.

Dr. Dogan's life has contacted the lives of many outstanding personalities in public and professional life, though he himself is of a retiring nature. Booker T. Washington, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Roland Hayes, Prof. George W. Carver, Langston Hughes, Dean William Pickens, Edwin Markham, Dr. I. G. Penn, Bishop Jones, and other notables have crossed his path in many ways.

Within a radius of 300 miles of Wiley college some two million Negroes live and engage in agriculture, transportation, mining, distribution, industry, personal service and the professions.

Under Dr. Dogan's administration the college has initiated many athletic, cultural, and academic features; the Southwestern Athletic conference, Greek letter fraternities, interracial student conferences, original Negro drama, interracial debating, and intercollegiate football.

The football and debating teams of Wiley college have won national championships, and her musical organizations have received national recognition.

Honors have come to Dr. Dogan from both the state and federal governments. Educators have signalized his career with tributes to his integrity, vision, administrative ability, and humanitarianism.

Hundreds of graduates of the institution carry forward the ideals of Wiley college in communities all over the country. These things are commemorated in this biography published at the beginning of his forty-fifth year of service to his race and country.

Dr. Dogan took the imperfect materials at hand to make what he wanted—a fine liberal arts college for his people. As a result of these successful struggles, President M. S. Davage of Clark university, in Atlanta acclaims Dr. Dogan "a pioneer among Negro college presidents," and continues, "today his colleagues gladly accord him first place."

Every Negro, young Negroes especially, should read this biography.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Mrs. Mary Church Terrell Represents Negro Women At The Women's Centennial Congress

DEC 7 1940

To celebrate the progress made by women in divergent occupations since 1840, The Women's Centennial Congress held a three-day session, November 25—27, at Hotel Commodore with Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, chairman, honoring one hundred women who have contributed something pertinent in their respective fields to the furtherance of woman suffrage. At this meeting the Negro race was represented through Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, leader, in the field of social science and author of "A Colored Woman in a White World," was presented by the chairman a gift in a form of a book, "The Progress which Women have made since 1840."

During Mrs. Catt's address she stated that the first paragraph of Mrs. Terrell's book was worth a milion dollars: "To tell the truth, I came very near not being on this mundane sphere at all. In a fit of despondency my dear mother tried to end her life, a few months before I was born. By a miracle she was saved, and I finally arrived on scheduled time noen the worse for the pre-natal experience which might have proved decidedly disagreable, if not fatal, to my future."

Mrs. Terrell during an interview reminisced about the development of the Congress which had its inauguration in 1840 following the Anti-Slavery Convention held in London. It was through the barring of women at this convention who were seated in the gallery shaded from view by a drawn curtain, that aroused the indignation of those present and upon their return to these shores they banded together to fight for the rights of women. When the Congress was formed it went out for the abolishing of slavery.

Mrs. Terrell in 1895 was the first colored woman to become a member of the Board of Education of Washington, D. C. The next year she became the first president of First Secular National Organization of National Association of Colored Women, formed in Washington, D. C. In 1904 she represented Negro womanhood three times, first in Berlin, Germany, where she delivered an address in three languages, German, French, and English on the subject, "The Progress and Problem of Colored Women in the United States. In 1919 she spoke for International League for Peace and Freedom, of which the late Jane Addam was president, in Zurich, Swtizerland, delivering her speech in German, and in 1937 Mrs. Terrell was sent to London to address the World Fellowship of Faiths.

Mrs. Mary Terrell is a graduate of Oberlin College, 1884, and has studied in France and in Germany.

Shows Research

SOUTH IN PROGRESS, by Katharine Dupre Lumpkin. International Publishers. 256 New York. 256 pp. $2.50

DEC 22 1940

This recent book by Miss Lumpkin is a splendid analysis of the southland. The author analyzes all of the economic and political factors that have kept the south, in the past, unprogressive, and she points out the role that this part of our country plays in the national economy.

The Constitution

It is a book that is the result of intensive research and displays on the part of the author not only an academic knowledge of the problems that confront Dixie, but an intimate knowledge as well, that springs only from being a native.

Atlanta, Ga.

She is a southerner, and for that reason better qualified to dissect the fundamental problems that confront this part of the country and offer real ideas as to their cause and ultimate mitigation.

Anyone wanting a valuable source of reference, written in a most interesting manner, should certainly make every effort to acquire this book by Katharine DuPre Lumpkin.

ARNOLD S. KAYE.

And Third

DEC 24 1940

But Sophia S. forgot to send her address. Since her letter was post-marked New York, will she come in for her prize books, or send an address to receive them?

New Masses

DEAR MISS MCKENNEY: Did I hear you ask for letters about Ten Terrific Books? The last time that I wrote to an author on literary subjects was when I was eleven years old. I had read a current book by Mary Roberts Rinehart called *Lost Ecstasy,* in which a society girl marries a cowboy; my opinions about both cowboys and society girls were decided ones. And being not exactly shy, I thought it only fitting that Mrs. Rinehart should know that I considered the hero one swell guy and the heroine an awful sissy. Besides opinions, I enclosed crayon drawings of all the characters in the book.

New York N. Y.

Before this time, I can remember being spurred into action by another story, *The Little Red Hen.* I finished that tale with an active dislike for its main character, a most smug and bourgeois bird. The suspicion that the pig and the duck and the rat's side had never been presented, and that maybe they were busy, too, tormented me. Besides, the hen did not trouble to impress them with any true need for cooperation, and I frankly believed that she really wanted to eat all the bread herself anyway. Be as it may, I rewrote the story ending it with the hen becoming chicken a la king on toast made from the very bread she so virtuously hoarded.

When I had graduated from Western stories and the Bobbsey Twins into high school, the first book to hit me right where it mattered was *The Autobiography of Lincoln Steffens.* The teacher of our Cicero class had us read it so that we could see how political machines worked in the Roman days, personally hoping that we would find out a thing or two about ditto in our own times. Fortunately, the lesson struck home.

During this time, I had a violent George Bernard Shaw period followed by a Gertrude Stein period. With Shaw, I enjoyed holding up to the light those sacred cows of "civilization as we know it"—religious dogmatism, male superiority, the double standard, military heroism. Gertrude Stein I liked because of one book called *Three Lives.* She managed to do a three-dimensional study of a Negro girl with complete sympathy and a remarkable lack of self-consciousness about her subject. To round out my high school reading, I might mention *A Doll's House,* by Ibsen, which delighted me because I had found somebody else besides me who thought that women were meant to be more than ornaments to patronizing males.

College meant reading so much so fast that it is hard to light on any one book that I can't possibly forget. Spinoza, perhaps, was invaluable help in removing that fear of materialism with which most young idealists grow up. A stiff encounter with Spinoza's theorems proving that matter includes everything from the meanest to the highest in values, dispelled forever the old spirit-versus-clay runaround.

A few years later I was to encounter *Man's Hope,* by Malraux, and to solve another conflict. How could one devote oneself to the esthetic and to social problems at the same time? I knew these arty liberals who seemed to have accomplished it, and yet I instinctively knew that they hadn't. Part of their mental makeup was only facade. But in the closing pages where Manuel realizes that everything he experiences—the music of Beethoven which he hears, the struggle of the Spanish people which he shares—all merge into making him a more complete individual, I realized, too, that all my experiences could achieve dignity only if they became part of a great movement, the aim of which is to achieve dignity for all.

My latest real experience was a book that you mentioned, *The History of the CPSU.* Reading it was like bringing into focus a pair of field glasses. Events and figures which had formerly seemed only dimly related emerged in clear shapes and colors. At the time I read it, I was a bewildered Young Democrat, wondering why the hell there was so much talk in the organization of administration jobs, factions, and Red-baiting, and so little about making the New Deal work. For every paunchy politician, for every hotel-room sell-out of the rank and file, I found a searching explanation in this lucid history. And the chapter on dialectical materialism is magnificent. It is compact enough to keep as a constant guide, yet leaves nothing to be misunderstood.

New York City. SOPHIA S.

New Book on Art By Alain Locke

DEC 27 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (ANP) Dr. Alain Locke, professor of philosophy at Howard university and widely-known art critic, author of several books on Negro and African art, has just had published by the Associated in Negro Folk Education a comprehensive survey of the Negro in art.

Kansas City Mo.

This book "The Negro in Art," is designed to be of service to students of Negro art in all its aspects as well as to artists and those professionally interested, who desire a collection of fine reproductions of the work of Negro artists and of the Negro subject in our art.

About BOOKS

DEC 28 1940

In "The Negro, Too, In American History," National Publishing Company, New York, the author, Professor Merle R. Eppse, has made an eloquent and authentic plea for the equality and dignity of the Negro race not only in the United States but throughout the world.

History is a burning beacon, standing in the past and casting its light into the future. The duty of the historian is great. He has as it were, to remove a veil from our eyes that we may see the light and better find our way; and in proportion as he succeeds or fails in discharging this duty, he is worthy or unworthy of his title.

Professor Eppse justifies his claim to his title in this rather massive and well-wrought work on the Negro. His observations are not confined to the man or color in America, as the title of the book would cause one to expect. The Negro in various parts of the world is touched upon.

The volume opens and the reader is presented with a view of the native home of the Negro, and, after a scene or so has moved slowly by, the author points to the great degree of similarity running through the customs, habits, and languages in the land; then he deems it needful to etch only thumb-nail sketches of the tribes.

From land to land the professor escorts his audience, holding up to its view now and then heavy-weighted data which bear down the ignorant opinion that the black peoples are inferior in mentality.

He pauses in Spain to note that in the fifteenth century the King there rewarded a Negro for his achievements in war and art, by making him a noble.

In trailing the Negro wherever he had been blown by the winds of chance, the author at last comes to these shores in slave days, and looks with sympathy upon this jungle man who was trying hard to accommodate himself to a people whose ways he could not understand and whose language he could not learn.

When America entered the World War the Negro became insensible to the burning sores in his heart, and took up arms for the Nation; and from this war, just as from all the other wars fought by this country, he returned home with praise for gallantry.

The colored man has accomplished far more in art and science than the average person would ever suspect. Full treatment of his worth-while accomplishments is recorded in this book, particularly an account of the intensified effort he has given to education. But the professor nods his head disapprovingly at the Negro's lack of knowledge of is own past, in which knowledge, he believes, lies the very secret of the colored man's salvation.

FAITH WINS FIGHT FOR NEGRO GIRLS

Eugene F. Gleason Commends Jane Edna Hunter in the Cleveland Plaindealer

DEC 27 1940

By Eugene F. Gleason

Jane Hunter had faith; not the soft, wishful sort, but a heart-whole, sturdy-backboned faith that fought its way through obstacles without losing its capacity to believe and love.

Yet her faith had almost yielded to despair on that August afternoon in 1911. The sudden, unlooked-for death of her mother when, after years of astrangement rapprochement seemed near, left Miss Hunter desolate. Failing health, having forced her to give up a prosperous nursing practice, added to her misery.

It was then that another despairing colored girl—this one stranded in Cleveland with two fatherless babies, a disgraced penniless fugitive from Alabama—appealed to Jane Hunter, for help. Even in her own profound despair, Miss Hunter heard and answered the other's greater need. She wrote the girl's parents at once, effected a reconciliation, and paid her railroad fare back home.

Discovers Career

Thus began the career in human service that is told in Jane Edna Hunter's autobiography. "A Nickel and a Prayer," published this month In helping the stranded Alabama girl, miss Hunter rediscovered her own strength, turning her heart and will to the aid of colored working gigrls.

In 1911, Miss Hunter became a founder and first president of the Working Girls Association. With no more impressive start than "a nickel and a prayer," she set out to protect colored girls from organized vice and educate them for useful employment. From the first, it was a fight, for groups who had done nothing to solve the problem, leaped to criticize Jane Hunter's solution She answered them with the one critic-killing blow—silence.

Fights Vice Lords

Under the trusteeship of an interracial board of outstanding white and colored citizens, Jane Hunter leased a 23-room house on E. 40th Street, to serve as a club and residence for working girls of her race.

Re-named the "Phillis Wheatley Association" to honor a colored woman poet, the institution battled its way upward to the status of a thriving community center.

Meanwhile, Miss Hunter struck out courageously at the vice lords and keepers of disreputable rooming houses who menaced her girls. Against "Starlight," the worst of these enemies, she waged a fight which, retold in her biography, had such dramatic qualities that a Hollywood producer tried unsuccessfully to buy the story right from Miss Hunter.

DEC 27 1940

In 1928 the association built its present 9-story building on Cedar Avenue. Three years later, a training school for home makers began, and in its first seven years more than 60 per cent of its 178 graduates obtained immediate employment. An employment office was co-ordinated with it to assure harmony between employed and employe. Through wealthy local friends and the aid of the Community Fund and Cleveland Welfare Federation the association grew and prospered. Today Jane Hunter is executive secretary of the association; a cultured gracious woman of 58 whose work has won her national fame. She has traveled in Europe, won her LL. B., degree at Baldwin-Wallace and passed the Ohio bar examination. Both Wilberforce University and Tuskegee Institute have awarded her honorary degrees.

"It is the special purpose of Phillis Wheatley Association," she writes in her book, "to discover, protect, cherish and perpetuate the beauty and power of Negro womanhood."

JANE HUNTER'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Outstanding in the Field of Social Work

DEC 19 1940

John BENNETT'S REVIEW

Declaring Jane Hunter's autobiography, "A Nickel and a Prayer," to be an extraordinary life story, comparable to Booker T. Washington "Up from Slavery," John Bennett, noted journalist and author, gives fullsome praise to this book in a review published in the past week's Sunday edition of the Charleston News and Courier, leading daily of South Carolina.

This book, says Mr. Bennett, in his review, is one of the most remarkable books produced by an American Negro. It tells the story of a South Carolinian Negro girl, who pledged her life to wiping out some of the azards which meet a young colored woman seeking decent employment and an honest living in a strange city.

"This woman," says Mr. Bennett, "battling upward against prejudice discrimination, skepticism, distrust and the malignant treachery of corrupt politics, founded a home for the friendless Negro girl, who came to the large cities of the North during the migration years between 1910 and 1920. The Phillis Wheatley Association of Cleveland, the institution she founded, may be regarded as a noteable example of the most successful interracial cooperation in the field of social service. It is indeed revealed as the refuge for the working girl."

"Her book tells of plodding through," comments Mr. Bennett, "difficult year after difficult year, resolutely, patiently, courageously, often against stubborn and sometimes sinister opposition, to building an agency for the training and guidance of working girls. Cultivating a reasonable understanding between the white and dark races, and to demonstrate the truth that the only efficient method of dealing with a submerged minority is not paternalistic but democratic, by helping the underprivileged individual to help himself."

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Southern "Free" Press

THE ATTITUDE OF THE SOUTHERN WHITE PRESS TOWARD NEGRO SUFFRAGE, *1923-1940. Edited by Rayford W. Logan. With a foreword by Charles H. Wesley. The Foundation Publishers, Washington, D. C. 75 cents.*

NOV 26 1940

THE attitude of the Southern white press toward Negro suffrage can be expressed in two words: against it. The Southern press is openly contemptuous of democracy. Read the following excerpts from editorials in the Charleston *News and Courier,* cited in the compilation under review:

New Masses

". . . the *News and Courier* is not a democrat. It fears and hates democratic government. . . . In South Carolina, the Democratic party has been, so far as the Negro vote is concerned, a Fascist party, and that is why the *News and Courier* 'cooperates' with it."

The hundreds of quotations in this book show that not one Southern white newspaper favors enforcement of the Fifteenth Amendment. It is favored only by Negro papers and many of the labor newspapers. And the latter of course, are not "white" periodicals; they reflect the interests of the Negro and white masses of the South. But the attitude of the "white"—that is, the ruling class—press is not the attitude of the Southern people. The many Southern organizations formed within the last few years to fight disfranchisement, the support given this fight by hundreds of Southern union locals, churches, clubs, women's groups, demonstrate that if the Southern white press does not want suffrage for the people, the people want suffrage for themselves. This book reveals an interesting division of opinion between the editorials, which unanimously oppose universal suffrage, and the news stories and letters to the editor, most of which express the growing movement for the right to vote.

Within the white press, however, there is a division of opinion—which is perhaps also a division of labor—as to tactics. The poll tax, chief instrument of disfranchisement in the South today, denies the ballot not only to the majority of the Negro people, but to more than two-thirds of the whites. Most of the newspapers in the Black Belt, heart and center of Negro oppression, fight to retain this tax. Others favor its abolition so that more whites may vote, but discuss means for the continued disfranchisement of the Negroes. The trick has been tried before: to split white from Negro in the 1870's, ex-slaveholders offered the whites the "grandfather clause," an all-white textile industry, and other morsels. The final outcome for the white masses is to be seen in the Southern wage differential, health and education differential, etc. But today the splitting tactic offers much less chance of success. The fight against the poll tax has united Negro and white masses to a greater degree than at any time since Reconstruction.

Among the methods of disfranchising the Negroes, should the poll tax be repealed, these newspapers suggest: the lily-white Democratic primary, property qualifications, and "understanding" tests which give the examiner much latitude. The New Orleans *Item* says frankly: ". . . everybody knows that our election laws were not constructed to permit denial of the suffrage to responsible *white* voters on technical grounds." (My emphasis—E. L.)

The excerpts from the press cited in this book cover a period of eight years. For about two of those years, the white press of the South was beginning to turn away from the national leadership of the Democratic Party. This was, of course, the period of the New Deal. In this era the Democratic national convention abolished its two-thirds rule, thus weakening the traditional leadership of Southern politicians within the party. Roosevelt attempted to purge from the ranks the most reactionary Southern politicians. So there is much talk in the press, in this period, of bolting the party, talk of a complete political realignment. Unfortunately, this realignment did not materialize. Roosevelt, as a matter of fact, never dealt all the cards in the New Deal deck. His "purges" did not succeed, precisely because he took no measures to enforce universal suffrage in the South. Today the Southern reactionaries are again in the leadership of the party. But the late, brief rage of the Southern press against Roosevelt, as reflected in this volume, is a measure of his present treachery to the Southern people.

ELIZABETH LAWSON.

Orangeburg, S. C., Times & Demo
November 30, 1940

Interesting Story Of Gulah Negroes

Told by Dr. Crum in His Book Dealing With This Subject; Of Particular Interest to This Section of Country

By WILL KEY.

Representing the purest African stock in America today, the Gullah Negroes of the sea island and coastal plain country of South Carolina, are among the most quaint and picturesque groups in the United States. Their dialect, (practically unintelligible to those unaccustomed to hearing it), their spirituals and religious attitudes, their cultural background, and naive philosophy of life have fascinated students and writers for many years.

It has remained, however, for Dr. Mason Crum, a South Carolinian who for ten years has been a member of the Duke University faculty, to write a comprehensive, scholarly and yet intensely interesting and sympathetic book on these unique Americans and the environment in which they pass their simple lives. Dr. Crum's 350-page book, illustrated with many photographs of his own taking, was recently published by the Duke Press.

"In a very true sense," declares Dr. Crum, "the history of these people furnishes a key to the whole racial situation in America. In their isolation the Gullahs provide materials for an interesting social study. It is significant that nowhere on the continent can a purer African culture be found. Until recent years, this whole area has been cut off from the rest of the world. The cultural and geographical isolation of these Negroes offers an absolutely unique situation for the student interested in human relations. Socially, relatively few changes have taken place in their mode of living and their outlook upon life since the Emancipation. The plantation pattern still exists to provide an interesting laboratory for the study of conditions which have long since disappeared in other sections."

But to Dr. Crum, who has visited among them each year for many years, the Gullahs are not laboratory specimens but among the most amiable, courtly and altogether delightful people one could wish to know. In them, too, he finds a poignant reminder of a day that has gone forever in the history of the South, for the lives of the Negroes have so intertwined with the lives of the white people of the tidewater Southland that to understand either both must be understood.

The Gullah dialect is one of the most curious in America. It is spoken in the area roughly encompassing the islands and littoral of South Carolina beginning at Georgetown and extending south through Charleston, Savannah and the Georgia coast, each section with slight variations. In the early days Negroes from different plantations were known by their peculiar accent. While the body of the dialect is English, its spirit is of the African slave coast, Dr. Crum says.

Gullah speech is distinctly different from the ordinary Negro dialect of the South, that heard on the stage in the typical black face comedy sketch or on the screen, the usual drawl, the inaccurate use of 'you all' and the like, Dr. Crum points out. The author cites two other distinct Negro dialects, the French Creole of Louisiana and the Mississippi Delta, and the familiar dialect of Virginia, North Carolina, western South Carolina, middle and upper Georgia, and the Gullah patois of the South Carolina and Georgia coast. Dr. Crum points out the Uncle Remus stories of Joel Chandler Harris are in the dialect of these areas.

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"Hukkuh yo' maussah plant all dat rice en' ting' ef'e yent wu'k? Entv I tell wunnuh him lib een Walterburruh? Duh summuhtime does dribe plantesshun now en' him dribe two hawss', en' de cock 'e hat one side 'e head. You nebbuh see nobody kin cock 'e hat stylish lukkuh Mass Clinh. Den 'e onbutt'n e weskit. 'E pit 'e lef' han' een 'e britchiz pocket, en swing 'e walkin' stick een e right han' en' bigin fuh quizzit him ob-shay. By dis time 'e git 'puntop de baa'n-yaa'd hill en' look obuh 'e fiel'. While the Gullahs have made a "perfect wreck" of English, violating every rule of grammar, their meaning is unmistakable and in the process have come some

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of the most homely and at the same time piquant idioms in the language. The Gullahs cut speech down to a minimum, take every shortcut available, but preserve the elemental needs.

Spirituals of the Gullahs are traced by Dr. Crum, who finds the African element in many of the purest ones. Even lines and stanzas that are unmistakable borrowings from the revival songs of the whites have their clear indication of Negro philosophy, psychology, and artistic bent, he finds.

Aside from its study of the Gullah Negroes, Dr. Crum's book comprises a realistic description of the South Carolina Low Country, with which he is so familiar, its swamps, rivers, farms, and woods and the animal and bird life that is so essential to the complete picture.

Out of his study of the region and people about which he writes Dr. Crum makes two observations:

"(1) One of the most pressing social needs in the South today is the discovery of some rational basis for a better understanding of racial problems. It appears that we need to establish some procedure by which the two races may cultivate attitudes which will lead to a mutually sympathetic understanding of the desires and purposes of each; (2) it is obvious that such an understanding cannot develop from the conventional patterns of thought and the emotionalized attitudes which each group has inherited; these new attitudes must be built upon the solid foundation of knowledge and the appraisal of facts. Too long have both groups, resorting to sentiment and emotion, received as a reward the host of irrational prejudices which easily follow. The theorist and the fanatic have had their day; it is now time to take stock and view the problems in their wider historical perspective. Young people of both races need to know more about the social history of the American Negro and his interesting and often intimate and friendly relationships with the white people of the South. Southerners white and colored are acquainted only with the present difficulties and antagonisms and know little of the finer relationships which have existed all along.

Former Greensboro Clerical Worker Turns Author and Writes Successful Book About Negro Folk Lore In Space of Three Weeks

Spartanburg S. C. Herald
December 22, 1940

Eula Griffin Duncan's 'Big Road Walker' Praised by New York Critics

(Editor's Note: This is one of a series of articles written for The Herald-Journal by Miss Martin under the title, "Southern Accent in New York.")

By WILLA GRAY MARTIN

New York, Dec. 21.—It's something new when an author can prove a first book of fiction contains not one scene that is autobiographical. It's even more news when the book is written in three weeks. This is the almost unique record that goes to Eula Griffin Duncan who, until a few months ago, was just another auditor in the Internal Revenue Department in Greensboro, N. C.

A very fine auditor, to be sure, and a student of music. There were some who thought the latter a good idea; others, listening to her practics during lunch time in a local music store, weren't so sure. (Or could she have been dressing up things bit for our benfit?) Anyway she's now a writer—and what do her past artistic sins matter?

Eula Duncan calls her story "Big Road Walker", and no less a person than Mary Lamberton Becker, famous critic of The Herald Tribune, says, it contains the most significant folk since Uncle Remus.

Her Size a Problem

The newly-born author was curled up on an expensive hotel bed when I saw her a few days ago. She was a bit worn out from a day of shopping, for it seems it's hard to get size nine dresses—even in New York. And in final defiance, she had yanked on an old pink cashmere sweater which she'd brought up from North Carolina. It was that shade of pink that looks melting and ethereal in wool, and with it she wore a tight short French blue skirt. The sweater blended with the peach-colored bedspread and threw warm, brilliant reflections into the shadows on her face. It was hard to look tired in such a color scheme.

But Mrs Duncan demurred, saying the stage setting was all accidental. She had selected the Hotel Algonquin just because she had laughed so at the proprietor-owner Frank Case's new book, "Do Not Disturb".

And just as we were talking, who should ring up but Mr. Case himself who had heard Eula Duncan was in town. Yes, everything is all right and yes, she'd like to meet him later for tea.

A Story in Everybody's Life

Up until several weeks ago, Eula Duncan never intended to write anything more than "Your letter of the first has been received" in her best shorthand. Then she went to Winston-Salem to visit her sister and heard once more some of the stories being told her two nephews and niece Alice Cannon, genial cook for the household.

To the visitor it seemed that Alice's Big Road Walker stories were part of negro folk lore and should be recorded. So she perched upon a high kitchen stool in the warm sunshine and begun to ask questions. Alice, hardly realizing that Mrs. Duncan was taking down her phrases and dialect, happily went on retelling some incidents and stumbling onto new ones.

After a week-end of furious note-taking, Eula went back to Greensboro and began arranging the description of the characters in one pile, relating incidents in another. When she got through, she had a continuous tale which sounded like something which might have grown out of negro legends, or which might have sprung up full-blown from Alice Cannon's imaginative family.

Truly Heroic Hero

Her hero was Big Road Walker who was so big that "five little boys could set on de rim of his pipe". Her heroine was his little wife, Hokey, who "could go right through a keyhole 'thout pressin'". What's more, Hokey is a magic woman "an' kin turn hussef to a real woman when she takes a mind to".

Between the two they had some wonderul times. Usually Big Road Walker gets into trouble—a man of his disposition can find it anywhere —and it's Hokey's job to come along and get him out. When this happens Big Road Walker is not very apologetic. After all, who but he has "ten toes on bofe his feets and is so strong he sleeps in iron sheets"?

Other colorful characters are Mean O My, Tubba Labba and Sizzie Higgins. I think it was Sizzie Higgins who took a trip around the world. It didn't take so long. She left Newberry, S. C., and went to Detroit and back by St.Louis, making as nice "a trip around the world" as anybody'd want.

Origin of Big Road Walker

Mrs. Duncan has always been interested in the origin of Alice's stories. She wonders if they could be a corruption of the John Henry legends. Several folk lore authorities, having read her book, have assumed they were; yet no one has ever heard any other mention of them. Big Road Walker's known ancestry only goes back to Alice's dusky grandfather,, who told the stories to his son.

Eula Duncan says that though histrionic Alice carefully autographs books in a hand more legible than her own, the negress doesn't quite realize that the tales in the lavishly illustrated volume are the same ones she been telling her three little charges all these years.

Mrs. Duncan has light brown hair, talks in a slow dry southern accent. She has a wirehaired terrier, likes to read biographies, thinks H. G. Wells as dull as a dictionary. Her husband, she divulged, is a lawyer. But that is all she would confide about him. Could it be that he prefers her piano playing to Big Road Walker and his pals?

Copyright, 1940 by Willa Gray Martin)

Inman, S. C., Times
December 20, 1940

Negro Life In the Carolina Sea Islands

The Gullah Negoes, living among the decadent plantations of the sea islands and coastal plain of South Carolina, represent the purest African stock in America today.

They are a part of a picture more nearly like that of slavery days than anything in contemporary Southern life, being only a few generations removea from their forbears in slayery.

Their most distinguishing characteristics are a curious dialect and a quaint philosopy.

Gullah is the story of Carolina coastal life with the Negro as the as the chief character. It is essentially an introduction to the social history of these people.

Because their lives have been so intertwined with the lives and fortunes of the white people of the section, the author has given a complete picture of life in the Carolina low country, not only as it is today, but as it was in the days when the rice community enjoyed financial prosperty and a significant culture.

Woven into this study are certain aspects of contemporary Negro life, including the dialect, the spirituals, the Negro's experience as a child of nature, and his religion.

SAPPHIRA AND THE SLAVE GIRL, by Willa Cather. Published by Alfred Knopf; 295 pages, $2.50.

DEC 29 1940

NANCY, THE BEAUTIFUL MULATTO SLAVE GIRL, whose father was an artist, is the leading figure in this poignant drama of a jealous wife and an innocent husband. The action takes place in Virginia just before the outbreak of the Civil War.

When Sapphira Dodderidge married the miller, Henry Colbert, her friends spoke of it as a "long step down." Thus it came about that Sapphira packed her belongings and moved several days journey from her home. She built her husband a mill, and she herself tended the big mill house and bossed her slaves. Illness overcame Sapphira, and her life was lived in a wheel chair.

Jealousy, because of the kind consideration Henry showed Nancy, began to torment the ailing woman. Sapphira thinks up many ways to torture the young girl, who is unaware of the reason, because her love for the master is like that of a child for its kindly protector.

These facts sound commonplace enough. But they are not what makes Willa Cather's last book the superb book it is. The beauty of the story is in the lives of the African slaves. Each slave has his or her history, and it is a thrilling bit of reading. The description of 90-year-old Jezebel's trip on the slave ship and her experiences after landing in the colonies; Uncle Jeff's life and his cruel position as the husband of a parlor maid who is not to have children because of the inconvenience to the mistress . . . these and many intimate, pathetic, pictures of the lives of slaves who lived in a good home, makes the book a living document.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

Wright Novel Is 'Book of Month'

NEW YORK. — (CNA) — The forthcoming novel, "Native Son," by Richard Wright, brilliant young Harlem writer, is the selection of the Book of the Month club for March, it was announced this week. Wrights first novel, "Uncle Tom's Children," won warm praise in this country and abroad. It was reprinted in the Soviet Union.

Wright will be the guest speaker at a reunion of the students of the Writers School on Friday, Jan. 26, at the Dalcroze School of Music, 9 East Fifty-ninth street.

Richard Wright Is Guest Speaker At Writers School

Richard Wright, whose forthcoming novel, "Native Son," is a selection of the Book of the Month Club, for March, will be the guest speaker at a reunion of the students of the Writers' School on Friday, Jan. 26, at eight o'clock, at the Dalcroze School of Music, 9 East 59th St., preliminary to the opening of the Seventh term of the Writers' School on Monday, Feb. 5. The meeting is open to the public. Other speakers to address the students of the school are: Ruth McKenney, author of "My Sister Eileen"; Norman Corwin, Director of the "Pursuit of Happiness" programs over the Columbia Broadcasting Station; Benjamin Appel, author of "Brain Guy" and "Power House"; Albert Maltz, author of "Black Pit," and winner of the O'Henry Award, 1938; and Henry Hart, author of "The Great One" and editor of "The Writers in a Changing World." Further information may be obtained at the offices of the school, 381 Fourth Ave.

Portsmouth Va Star
January 8, 1940

History of Negro Off Press Soon

Publication of a 500-page volume, "The Negro in Virginia," a works-progress administration literary project sponsored by Dr. Arthur Howe, president o Hampton institute, will take place shortly, according to the Virginia writers' project of the WPA. The volume contains a history of the Negro in Virginia from the time the first slaves were brought to Jamestown island in 1619 to the present day.

Material for the book was assembled by a group of Negro workers under the supervision of Roscoe E. Lewis. Final editing was done at the Richmond headquarters of the Virginia writers' under the direction of Endora Ramsay Richardson, State supervisor.

An initial order for 1,600 copies of the work already has been placed by the board of Hampton institute and co-operating sponsors.

All royalties will be deposited with the treasurer of the Commonwealth of Virginia and ear-marked or future use in the writing and publication of educational works regarding the Negro race.

Waycross, Ga., Journal Herald
January 16, 1940

NEGRO PROGRESS BE THEME OF NEW BOOK

"Seventy-Five Years of Negro Progress," is the name of a book that will come off the press on or about April 21, according to announcement made today by its publisher, Davis Lee, who is spending today here in company with his wife.

Lee is Editor and Publisher of the Savannah Journal, a newspaper published in the interest of the Negroes of Georgia.

In speaking of his book Editor Lee stated that he planned to publish 18,000 copies in the first run and it would contain 500 pages. It will deal with the opportunities and advantages offered the Negro in Georgia and will endeavor to correct much misinformation that is prevalent in other sections of the country.

Views Are Aired.

DIXIE DEMAGOGUES. By Allen A. Michie and Frank Ryhlick. The Vanguard Press, New York. 298 pp. $2.50.

—

A blistering array of unpublished and generally uncomplimentary facts about some of the southern politicians forms the background of Allan A. Michie's and Frank Ryhlick's up-to-the-minute book, "Dixie Demagogues." The former foreign news editor of Time magazine and a Washington newspaperman combine their talents to pattern after the famous team of Pearson and Allen in the discussion of political topics and news, and unloose upon the reading public a view that will appear strange to the followers of the political leaders of the south.

The publication, the author's first, has a decided pro-New Deal, pro-labor, pro-CIO slant, and places most of the blame on the politicians for the south being "the number one economic problem." The private lives of such men as John N. Garner "Cotton Ed" Smith, "The Man" Bilbo, and Huey P. Long are aired in a vivid, lively manner that makes for entertaining and informative reading.

The last chapter briefly discusses the opposite side, mentioning such liberal leaders as Supreme Court Justice Hugo L. Black, ex-Congressman Maury Maverick and Senator Claude Pepper, with the contention that the future hopes of the South rest upon this group.

—TYUS BUTLER.

Louisiana Cajuns

LOUISIANA FRENCH FOLK SONGS, by Irene Therese Witfield. Louisiana State University Press. 159 pp. $3.

—

The words and music of La Belle France, as practiced on the banks of Ol' Man River. The author has investigated this little-known material with a wealth of scholarship and a deep and abiding affection for her subject that are readily apparent in these pages. The result is an authoritative and deeply absorbing treatise on regional literary expression. Perhaps no other region in these more or less United States has not heretofore been so treated.

They are simple folk, preoccupied with the realities of a none-too-prosperous existence. One would call them earthy, were it not that the French since time immemorial have had the unique gift of imparting a spiritual quality to their everyday concerns. Even the unhappy swain who sings (with what seems to us an unnecessary vehemence and a certain lack of originality in the approach): "I wanna get married, I wanna get married, I wanna get married, but my gal don' wanna" becomes, by virtue of the melodiousness of his chosen tongue, one with Homer and the angels. To these bucolic sentiments the occasional military strain (as in our old friend from overseas "Malbrough s'en va-t-en guerre") intrudes with something of an anachronism. Says the author: "These songs portray the young man as primarily interested in the girl he loves, la belle. He loves her; he tells her goodbye when she marries someone else; he wants to know what he has done to make her treat him so mean; he blames her because he is poor; he thinks of suicide when she doesn't love him; he flatters her, he dreams of her, he regrets her when she sends him away . . ." and so on.

And why not? These other things, they come and go. But love goes on forever.

OLE H. LEXAU.

BLACK MANHATTAN. By James Weldon Johnson. 12mo. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. $2.50.

A new edition of this account of the Negro in New York.

Widespread Interest in Negro Workers Shown by Requests For Research Book

Widespread interest in the situation and prospects of the American Negro is indicated by the many requests received for copies of "The Urban Negro Worker in the United States," a research report in two volumes published by the United States Department of the Interior.

Nearly 400 chambers of commerce, heads of departments of commerce and finance, and schools and sociologists, literally from Maine to California, have ordered these books. More than 260 public libraries in this country, besides those of the University of Kiel, Germany, and the University of Commerce at Rotterdam, Holland, have received copies.

Aided by WPA Funds

The two companion volumes were made possible through an allotment of WPA funds for the beginning of a new Federal research project to study white-collar and skilled Negro workers.

They present the findings of more than 600 WPA workers who visited and interviewed 335,000 Negroes, in 74 cities with population of 10,000 or more and eleven smaller cities.

Before this work was undertaken, detailed information on the occupations of Negroes in cities was not available. The report furnishes new material for commercial, welfare and educational agencies to use as a basis for constructive economic and social programs.

The report shows that, while the number of male Negro skilled workers engaged in their usual occupations increased from 1925 to 1930, it declined sharply during the next six years.

Only 74.5 as many of these workers were employed in skilled occupations in 1936 as had been so engaged in 1925.

Almost half of the skilled Negro workers interviewed in 1936 were in other than skilled occupations. Of these, 42.4 percent had found jobs as unskilled laborers and servants.

The report indicates that this decrease in the number of skilled jobs available for male Negro skilled workers is more than temporary.

Unemployment Increases

Not only did the period from 1930 to 1936 involve movement from skilled jobs to other than skilled ones, but it also led to shifting from usual occupations to nogainful employment. While only 8.4 per cent of those covered by the survey were out of jobs in 1930, fully 17.7 per cent were unemployed in 1936.

In the Southern States, Negro skilled workers were more firmly

integrated in the employment patterns of their communities than were their brothers in the Middle Atlantic region. Occupational maladjustments were reported greatest in the latter region.

Negro skilled workers in 1936 averaged less than 40 years of age. The Southern workers were older than those in the North. The highest median age was in the South Atlantic region, the lowest in the Middle Atlantic region.

More Formal Schooling

The average male Negro skilled worker received more formal schooling than did the majority of the male Negro workers. The report shows that the skilled workers had completed their elementary schooling and started in high school. Workers in the North had completed more years of schooling than had those in the South.

Everywhere, however, experience was the most important method for preparation for the usual occupations among male Negro skilled workers.

Less than a fiftieth considered that education alone had prepared them for their life's work. A tenth of the workers had depended upon apprenticeship only.

Volumes Nos. 1 and 2 of "The Urban Negro Worker in the United States" were planned and prepared in the office of Dr. Robert C. Weaver at the time that the present assistant to the administrator, U.S. Housing Authority, was adviser on Negro affairs to Secretary Harold L. Ickes of the Department of the Interior.

Ira De A. Reid, professor of sociology at Atlanta University was director of the survey. Preston Valien and Charles S. Johnson, professor at Fisk University, were supervisors of research and tabulation, respectively.

Miss Josephine Davis of the office of the adviser on Negro affairs, figured largely in every step leading to the preparation of the two volumes for distribution and use at limited cost.

RICHARD WRIGHT'S NEW NOVEL 'BOOK OF MONTH' SELECTION

NEW YORK.—"NATIVE SON," Richard Wright's new novel to be published soon, has been chosen as the Book of the Month club selection for March. Wright, a Guggenheim Fellow, received the Story magazine prize for his first novel, "Uncle Tom's Children" written while he was a member of the Federal Writers' Project here.

Anniston, Ala. Star
February 8, 1940

A Book Upon The South

A textbook which should do much toward stimulating the interest of the coming generation toward working out the salvation of the new South is "The Rural South," written by A. L. Chesnutt, one of the fertile minds of Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Dixie Book Company, Montgomery, publishers.

Already "The Rural South" has been accepted for state high schools.

From the beginning of modern Southern history, Mr. Chesnutt has endeavored to produce a volume which would set forth specifically the section's background in order that the present problems may be more clearly understood.

When facts about the South are presented as comprehensively and with as much understanding as Mr. Chesnutt gives them, our high school students are bound to be impressed. Since our continued progress will rest next upon these same students, we may be sure of applied intelligence in the years to come.

High school students should find the chapters upon farm tenancy and education exceptionally provoking of thought. Regarding tenancy, Mr. Chesnutt says: "We are accustomed to think of tenancy as concerning mainly the Negro, but, in reality, only 40 per cent of the tenants are Negroes. In the 16 Southern states, there are 700,000 Negro tenants and 1,100,000 white tenants. The false notion that the Negroes make up most of the tenants is probably due to the fact that, before the War Between the States, cotton was grown largely by Negroes.

"After the slaves were set free, share-cropping developed as a substitute for the slave system of operating large plantations. White families soon began to compete in this business, which is an outgrowth of the slave system and retains many of its evils. With the increasing growth of tenancy in the South, this has become a major problem for both races. Its solution is a challenge to us all. Unfortunately, we are prone to overlook the threat it holds to the happiness and prosperity of all our people . . ."

Mr. Chesnutt produces figures to show that from 1890 to 1930 only one state, Virginia, has been able to cut down her tenancy. Alabama's farm tenancy population has nearly doubled in that period, rising from 46.8 per cent to 64.7.

"What rate of tenancy can a sound and wholesome country life support?" Mr. Chesnutt asks. "That question has not yet been satisfactorily answered. In Denmark, which is often referred to as an ideal country community, fewer than two per cent of the farmers are tenants; and 98 per cent own their own homes. The New England states have an average of less than five per cent of tenancy. The Far West has about 17 per cent. The South exceeds the other sections by far, with an average of 58 per cent.

"It might be thought that tenancy is a stage in the development of a young country. We must remember, however, that the 'New Agricultural Denmark' with its two per cent is not as old as Mississippi with its 72 per cent. Neither is Maine with its four and a half per cent any older than Georgia with its 68 tenants out of every 100 farmers . . .

"How much tenancy can a sound agricultural community bear up under and thrive? Many economists say that it should be under 20 per cent. Whether this surmise is correct or not, most will agree that the South would be infinitely better off if more of the land belonged to those who work it."

This tenancy is moving the South very near serfdom, Mr. Chesnutt declares. He presents his material clearly, in an unaffected style. It should graphically present to the high school mind the enormity of Southern problems, and point out for them the way in which they can help in their solution. A complete understanding of a problem is the surest way to its solution.

An imposing list of research material is given by Mr. Chesnutt for those who would plunge into a study of the South in greater detail than can be offered in a simple textbook. As for "The Rural South," we believe the author has made a good selection of material for a comprehensive but, of necessity limited evaluation of Dixieland.

"DUSK OF DAWN"

DuBois' New Book.

Atlanta U., Department of Sociology.—Harcourt, Brace and Company have signed this month a contract with Dr. W. E. B. DuBois for the publication of his newest book, **DUSK OF DAWN**, the Autobiography of a Race Concept. This volume is an attempt to evaluate the race problem in the United States and its various changes in the light of the life of the author. It is thus partly biographical and partly sociological. It will be published in the early fall of 1940. This will be the twelfth bound volume of Dr. DuBois' writing. In addition to this he has collaborated in nine other volumes, has edited sixteen of the Atlanta University Publications and twenty-three annual volumes of the **CRISIS**, beside numerous contributions to periodicals.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

"THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA"

ONE OF THE MOST constructive pieces of work accomplished by the Works Project Administration was the publishing of a Guide Book series of various communities and states. These guidebooks are the finest contribution to American patriotism that has been made in our generation, offering as they do an opportunity to know and understand intimately our country and its people. All the volumes in this series contain a wealth of information in the history and lore of the locality with which they deal.

JUL 6 1940

But to our way of thinking the most interesting is "The Negro in Virginia," published by Hastings House of New York and compiled by the workers of the Writers Program of the WPA of the State of Virginia. Much of the research was done at Hampton Institute, which sponsored the project.

The history of the Negro in Virginia is, in many respects, the history of the Negro in America. It was to Virginia that the first African natives were brought; and here also more than two hundred years later, their freedom was assured at Appomattox Courthouse. Much of the culture of the American Negro is derived from sources in Virginia, just as the roots of many Negro families were first nourished in Virginia.

"The Negro in Virginia" contains a comprehensive account of the Negro from early days of slavery down to the present. Much painstaking research was done, all of which has been carefully verified. The illustrations present a living, moving cross section of Negro life over a period of many years.

The volume should be a welcome addition to the library of any Negro home.

JUL 6 1940

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

Find Remnants Of African Culture On Georgia Coast

Early World

Atlanta, Ga.

New Volume Arouses Much Interest

OCT 13 1940

Announcement of the November publication of "Drums and Shadows", a series of field studies on the Georgia coastal Negro, is arousing keen interest throughout the country, particularly among students of ethnology. This book was written by the Savannah Unit of the Georgia Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration. Mary Granger supervised the work leading to this production which is to be published by the University of Georgia Press.

"Drums and Shadows" is the fourth significant Federal Writers' Project book on the Negro to be issued within three months. Mainly, it is a first-hand study of customs, rituals and beliefs which have been handed down from father to son, generation after generation, among Negro slaves and descendants of slaves in the tidewater lowlands and coastal islands of Georgia.

The recording of conjure practices, religious survivals, and tales of slaves from Africa will be of interest to the lay reader. African parallels by scholars, missionaries and travelers who have lived among the tribes of West Africa are contained in an appendix covering a period from about 1709 to the present time.

NOTE DIALECT CHANGE

The book gives a faithful transcription of the speech of the 138 Negroes interviewed. This is one of the most interesting features of the volume. The decided change in recent years from the marked Geeche dialect to a more modern diction is clearly shown.

Photographs by Muriel and Malcolm Bell, Jr., of Savannah, present some striking studies of the Negroes living in the tidewater regions and on islands off the Georgia coast. The oldest person interviewed, Tony Delegal, 110 years of age is pictured in "Drums and Shadows" with work-gnarled hands. A fisherman of Pin Point, a drummaker of Savannah, and an ox-cart at Sapelo are among the other subjects making up the illustrations in the WPA book.

The foreword of "Drums and Shadows" is by Guy B. Johnson, sociologist and research associate at the University of North Carolina. Dr. Johnson, in commenting on the value of the book to students of anthropology and especially those interested in the Negroes, says that it contains "some of the best first-hand material on Negro life that has ever been collected. The subject matter should be of considerable interest not only to the average reader but to sociologists and anthropologists who are studying the acculturation of the Negro in America."

GETS FAVORABLE COMMENT

Outstanding among others who have favorably commented on the forthcoming production of the Georgia Writers' Project of the WPA is Melville J. Herskovits, anthropologist of the Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University, who states, "Drums and Shadows" presents interesring sidelights on the lives of Negroes living in Georgia Sea Islands and on the Georgia coast. It is interestingly written and should be read by all those who are concerned with rounding out a full picture of life in the South today. Because of its readibility, it should attract the interest of the laymen. The remnants of African practice revealed in its pages should also make this book valuable to scientists."

OCT 13

"The Negro in Virginia", "The Negroes of Nebraska" and "The Cavalcade of the American Negro" are the titles of other WPA Writers' Project books issued since July of this year.

Book Review

'The Books of American Negro

son and Rosamond Johnson, the Viking Press. . . . . .

Savannah

Lovers of music will be glad to learn that the Viking Press has just issued "The Book of American Negro Spirituals" by James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamond Johnson. Really two volumes in one, the new edition contains all the material which heretofore was included in two volumes that soldt for $3.75 Priced at $2.95, the new edition thus presents an opportunity for more music lovers to get these masterpieces at a big saving

OCT 6 1940

The spiral binding in addition makes it very convenient for those who have had difficulty in getting the music to lay flat when it was issued in regular book form.

Savannah, Ga.

"The Books of American Negro Spirituals" should be in the home of every Negro.

OCT 6 1940

"Dusk of Dawn" by Dr. W. E. B. DuBoise, New York City—Harcourt Brace, $3.00.

Dr. DuBoise has called "Dusk of Dawn" his autobiography, but in writing this he has also written a segmgent of the social history of te American Negro as he has been a part of it.

Few Negroes are fitted and able to give us as intelligent a sociological picture of that time as he. We may not agree in all of the thinking that is his but even in disagreement we can appreciate the finesse with which he handles his subject.

OCT 6 1940

W. E. B. DuBois born in Massachusetts of parents of French Dutch and African extraction, lived an average boy's life in a small town. It was unusual in that New England town, in that day, for any boy to go to high school and particularly so for a Negro to go and prepare for a college education. This was started in Fisk University of Nashville where he had his first knowledge of the South. From there he went to Harvard where he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, and abroad to the Universities of Berlin and Paris.

Savannah Journal

His first teaching experience was at Wilbebforce; he spent fourteen years at Atlanta University, he was director of publication and research for thirty-ing th attime founded and edited one years for the NAACP and dur the magazine, Crisis.

He has always been a militant part of any struggler for Negroes, the World War, Scottsboro Case and legislation against lynching being some of the many.

Harcourt Brace says "Dusk of Dawn' is the culmination of a notable career of letters and scholarship. It is an American document—the history of a native son who sees in the dusk of his day the dawn of a new existence for his people."

An Excellent Novel About The South By Alabama Woman

FOUNDATION STONE, by Lella Warren. Published by Alfred A. Knopf; 754 pages, $3.

OCT 13 1940

THIS NOVEL, WRITTEN BY AN ALABAMA WOMAN, is an all-embracing picture of the South from the early 1820's, when the land was a tangled wilderness inhabited by Indians and a few whites, until the close of the Civil War. It is a vivid story of a growing family; their efforts to build a home and sustain themselves, their troubles with the Creek Indians, their part in the war. It is a story of the days and ways of Alabama's early pioneers.

The heroine of the book is Gerda, the daughter of a New York Dutch family, who became the bride of Yarbrough Whetstone, a Carolina landowner, when she was 13 and he was 30. Yarbrough was "proportioned to a race at its zenith." And Gerda, 'tough as a grapevine . . . deep of bosom, high colored, vivid-eyed," rapidly grew into a sturdy partner in Yarbrough's undertakings.

Birmingham News

Gazette

It was Gerda who encouraged her husband to seek the new land in Alabama where "cotton sprang up like weeds." And although she was not yet 20 and was carrying her fifth child, she was the leader and inspiration for the Whetstone tribe, which included many of Yarbrough's relatives.

During the years which follow the family's migration to Alabama, Yarbrough "sweated, slept, ate, lived, killed even to gain the victory of cotton." Gerda, watching over her 10 children and mothering the son of her husband and the Dutch servant girl, takes on wifehood "as a way of life, not as a garment in which some child masquerades." Her strength and courage to her own are always evident as she hastens from one urgency to another.

As the years roll by, the Whetstone children grow up, marry and have sons and daughters of their own. The wilderness becomes a town, and the rumblings of the Abilitionists create new problems. The War Between the States, which called to service 11 of Gerda's men, is here a rationalizing philosophy of secession and revolt rather than an epic of bloodshed and battle.

Birmingham News

While the causes and effects of the war are made intensely interesting, the war is not the reason for the reader's absorption in the book; the real attraction is the narrative and creative power of the author. Here are men and women so real and so genuine, characters so rounded and integrated, that their experiences touch our lives with meaning.

Ala.

Thereis not an insipid character in the book: Old Gran, garrulous and honest, lay and roared like a bull on his death bed at the preacher who tried to soothe him with Biblical quotations. Lucinda, Gerda's oldest daughter, takes the center of the stage very often. She defies all restrictions put upon women, and marries a second husband while knowing that her first husband is only pretending to be dead. But of all the characters, only Gerda and her doctor-son find the enduring substance of life.

The power of this novel cannot be caught by description. Nor can a review give more than a suggestion of the variety, rich personality and events which pour through its pages.—ESTHER RENNICK.

Race and Racism

RACE: SCIENCE AND POLITICS. By Ruth Benedict. Modern Age Books. $2.50.

RUTH BENEDICT, the well-known social anthropologist, contributes to the subject of race a compact and vigorously written little volume which should be of great help in clearing the public mind of cant. She manages in 250 short pages to explain the prevailing attitude of modern scientists on the questions involved in race, and to assert the futility of hooking up these tangled abstractions to the facts of culture and social life which are the world's primary concern. Mrs. Benedict commands a thoroughly disciplined style which enables her to expound technical matters without heaviness or condescension; and with it goes an instinct for hitting on happy illustrations in many realms, all contributing their fragment of truth to the conclusion that race is a real subject for scientists and racism a myth for politicians.

On the latter half of this statement it is not hard to agree, nor to echo whole-heartedly Professor Boas's dictum that Mrs. Benedict's book is badly needed in our time. And perhaps that is all that need be said if one takes an immediately practical point of view. But the theoretical interest in the concept of race remains, and it is there that I disagree with the author—or rather that she explicitly disagrees with me by denying that race is a superstition. She explains in the first half of her book that only a very loose division of mankind into three large color groups, or else a particular study of physical traits found in individuals or families, is possible in the light of science. She adds, later, that race is in these senses an abstraction. So far we are on common ground. Abstractions we must have: the only question is how they work. When they purport to define certain things in a fixed relation, while in fact they cover a variable set of phenomena, they deserve, in my humble opinion, to be called superstitions.

If we take witchcraft as a fitting example, we must remember that there were many genuine facts to support the belief in it, and a sensible man like Barrett Wendell, writing in 1890 after a study of the documents, was able to show that some at least of the Salem witches were possessed (read: hysterical) and a decidedly evil influence in the community. The trouble with the concept "witchcraft" was its pretense to stand for a coherent and virtually invariant set of facts. It abstracted from irrelevant things, such as old age, or deformity, or an interest in reading books. Similarly, I think, with race. The scientists' right, defended by Mrs. Benedict, to study hereditary physical traits is the last thing I should think of denying. But the word "race" itself, implying a bundle of tangible, connected, and transmissible features on which membership in a fixed class can be based, is at worst a dangerous and at best an unserviceable word which has betrayed every writer, including Mrs. Benedict and myself, into suggesting what it cannot mean. It is too late to redefine it, precisely because it has generated the "racism" which modern scientists object to, and it is unfortunately too early for genetics to replace it with a concept XYZ which will truly say what science means to affirm.

JACQUES BARZUN

WEEVIL IN THE COTTON. By Samuel Milton Elam. Frederick A. Stokes. $2.

Dictatorship, concentration camps, and storm troops are translated into terms of a corrupt political ring in a Southern city. The story, told in the first person by a newspaperman, a member of the ring, has a plot that is all too familiar and far from convincing in its present dress. The pulp-magazine style, too, makes dull reading, though it is doubtless in character.

Pamphlets

A SOUTHERN BIBLIOGRAPHY. By Janet Margaret Agnew. 2 Pamphlets. University, La.: Louisiana State University, the Library School. 75 cents each.

The following lists: "Historical Fiction, 1929-1938" and "Poetry, 1929-1938."

R. C. HUTCHINSON: An Appreciation By Basil Davenport. Pamphlet. New York: Farrar & Rinehart.

A critical essay on the work of the novelist.

Economics and Sociology

THE CONDITIONS OF ECONOMIC PROGRESS. By Colin Clark. 8vo. New York: The Macmillan Company. $5.

A comparative study of the investigations which have been made in all the principal countries into national income.

THE YOUTH OF NEW YORK CITY. By Nettie Pauline McGill and Ellen Nathalie Matthews. 8vo. New York: The Macmillan Company. $2.50.

A socio-economic study for the Research Bureau of the Welfare Council of New York City.

Historical Studies:

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY. By J. W. Coleman, University of North Carolina Press. $3.

J. Winston Coleman—onetime school and college mate of the reviewer—has produced a fascinating book. And I hope that the author, if he ever sees this review, as well as the reader, will pardon a few personal notes which may help explain his book. Coleman was about the last person in the world one would have expected to turn historian. Descended from early Central Kentucky settlers, he seemed determined to forsake the family estates for a career of engineering; but instinct, and the death of his family, drew him back to the farm, while family papers, a natural curiosity for old things and the friendship of an unusual group of Lexington antiquarians led him to pursue the muse of history and to form what has become a truly remarkable collection of Kentuckiana.

Many collectors rest content with collecting. Coleman always wanted to utilize his finds. Always fascinated by old newspapers, handbills, pamphlets, photos and "yellowing court records," he has employed these as the chief supports of all his writing. Thus the author has never intended his book to be an economic or political treatise on slavery, but instead a kind of panorama of material.

He insists that he neither attacks nor defends the "peculiar institution," but presents the records and lets them speak for themselves, while in another place he adds, "In order to put the reader more in the spirit of the period under consideration, generous use has been made of the phraseology of the time."

This method, though it has its virtues, has also its defects. It provides an antique flavor, the feeling of glancing through Mr. Coleman's collection or of listening to his elderly friends relate slavery anecdotes; but one feels the need of some critical judgements. We begin, for example, with an idyllic picture of spacious days, happy retainers, noble gentry in a veritable Bluegrass paradise—the picture all good Southerners of the "moonlight and roses" school drew of the days befo de wah. Soon, however, we are plunged into the darker side; the cruelty, the horror, the sadism of slavery as presented in the lurid literature of the abolitionists. Both pictures are based "on the records;" yet we realize that both cannot be true as they stand, just as we know that it would be impossible to paint a true picture of the last war by quoting atrocity and propaganda literature.

Despite this, the author renders the Southern historian and reader a valuable service. He gives us unforgettable sketches of the by-products of slavery; the auction block, the town watch, the activities of abolitionists, nigger traders, underground railroaders and crusaders for freedom. There are enough facts and figures to show that after cotton became profitable in the deep South, zeal for slavery and the slave trading by the border states waxed while that for emancipation waned.

Kentucky was one of the centers of the export trade down the river. In fact we follow the slave trader from his unsavory slave jails in Lexington to the markets at Natchez and New Orleans, observing meanwhile all the nefarious tricks of his trade.

Thus anyone interested in Southern history, in slavery or in Kentucky, particularly in Mr. Coleman's stamping ground of Central Kentucky, is in for a real treat. Since he has disposed of Kentucky's antebellum Masons, stagecoaches and slaves, I am anxious to know in what direction J. Winston Coleman will probe next. I will certainly attempt to procure any forthcoming volumes and I venture to predict the reader of Slavery Times will, too.

JOHN H. DAVIS.
Professor of History, Southwestern College

SONGS FROM THE DARK. By Nick Aaron Ford. 12mo. Boston, Mass.: Meador Publishing Company. $1.

A collection of poems.

THE SLAVE BUSINESS. By George W. Booker. 12mo. Scotch Plains, N. J.: Flanders Hall. $1; paper covers, 50 cents.

A study of the slave trade of modern times.

SUWANEE VALLEY. By Bernie Borchardt and Eugene Sears. 12mo. New York: Harbinger House, 41 West Thirty-fifth Street. $2.

A story of Florida just after the Civil War.

AMERICAN NEGRO SONGS. By John W. Work. 8vo. New York: Howell, Soskin & Co. $3.50.

A collection of spirituals, work songs, blues and social songs in the arrangements made by the Fisk Jubilee Singers.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

A HISTORY OF NEGRO INSURANCE COMPANIES

DEC 1940

An Economic Detour, by M. S. Stuart, 339 pp. New York; Wendell Malliet & Co.

(By Harry H. Pace, President, Supreme Liberty Life Insurance Company for ANP)

In these times of depressions, business failures, and blasted hopes, it was refreshingly reasuring to read an Economic Detour by M. S. Stuart of Memphis, Tenn. A history of insurance in the lives of American Negroes, it is an inspiring book about men who dared to stake their savings, their homes and their reputations for the sake of developing new ideas and institutions.

An Economic Detour is not just inspiring alone. It is a factual and scholarly work written as only a man with Stuart's experience and facility could write. Every once in a while one runs across a book whose author has been a part of the subject about which he writes and can therefore write with intimate vigor and realness. An Economic Detour is such a book.

In telling the story of early church relief societies, their development into fraternals and later into legal reserve insurance companies, Stuart takes you into dingy churches and crowded barber shops where many of our insurance companies of today were born, he allows you to peer into the minds of men like Heman Perry, Charles C. Spaulding and Alonzo F. Herndon who dreamed of organizing insurance companies on a legal reserve basis when almost everyone during their time sneeringly said that it could not be done.

The eventual success of these early pioneers the author points out becomes all the more noteworthy when one considers the handicaps under which they had to work.

With no opportunity to participate freely in the commerce of the land, they were from the very start, forced off the main highway of finance and denied the freedom and cooperation needed to operate a business for all racial groups.

As an alternative they had to take an economic detour which Stuart says "No other racial group in this country is required to travel."

That these men have traveled the road well is evidenced by the fact that this book has been written about them and their work. They had their misfortunes and undoubtedly made many errors but the 46 odd Negro life insurance companies in existence today are monuments to the ability of Negro business men to succeed in a field that even white America with all of its resources and advantages has found exceedingly difficult and hard.

An Economic Detour is an interesting book about a vital phase of American Life. All Americans should read it.

Negro Firm Publishes First Book Of Poems By Robert E. Rayden

DEC 28 1940

DETROIT, Mich.—The first book of poems by a recognized Michigan Negro poet to be published here appeared last week.

The title of the book is "Heart Shape in the Dust" and was written by Robert E. Hayden, 27-year old poet, whose work had attracted the attention of Arthur S. Spingarn, James Weldon Johnson, Eva Jessye, Langston Hughes and others. The collection was published by the Falcon Press, a newly established Negro publishing house, the only one of its kind in the State of Michigan.

Mr. Hayden is a native Detroiter and was educated at Wayne University, Detroit, and the University of Michigan. While at the latter University in 1938, he won a coveted Hopwood award for poetry, being the only member of his race to do so. Eleven of these prize winning poems appear in "Heart-Shape in the Dust." A poem of his published in a national anthology, **American Stuff**,. attracted the attention of Arthur B. Spingarn, who showed the work of the young poet to the late James Weldon Johnson,. Mr. Johnson was extremely enthusiastic over Mr. Hayden's lyrics and likened them to "fine cameos." He showed a manuscript collection of the poet's verses to several critics and publishers in New York.

Mr. Hayden has had poems in many periodicals and magazines, among them Opportunity, Kaleidograph, New York Herald Tribune. A mass chant written by him last year around the Negro struggle, "These Are My People," was awarded honorable mention in the New York World's Fair poetry exhibition and was also dramatized by the Chicago Negro Group Theater.

CORNBREAD AND CREEK WATER: The Landscape of Rural Poverty, by Charles Morrow Wilson. Published by Henry Holt & Co.; 309 pages, $3.

DEC 29 1940

IF YOU WANT TO GO ON BEING AN OSTRICH about conditions in rural America, then by all means ignore this book. But if you would like to know the truth, the whole distressing story, then read Mr. Wilson's calm report on conditions as they exist from the lakes to the gulf.

Charles Morrow Wilson is no theorist; he has no solutions to offer, no plan to suggest. But he has about as many facts to report as any one man could get into the pages of a single book.

Would you like to know the facts about cotton and what it is doing to the land and the people? Would you like to know about corn? Wheat? Stock raising? Would you like to know how billions of dollars are being poured out to finance practices that are ruinous to both the land and the people?

Just because you live in the city and your foodstuff comes up from the farm regularly, don't think this book doesn't concern you. It does. The facts in "Cornbread and Creek Water" concern each of us and unless the reported conditions are bettered, they may in time concern us so fearfully that we may find our whole national life cramped, if not unfortunately altered.

LIVES OF FAMOUS NEGROES WRITTEN

DEC 14 1940

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Dec. 12—(9ANP)—Stories For Little Tots, collection of tales of the lives of six great Negroes, is an attractively written, delightfully simple book whose aim is to "help little children to appreciate early in life the aspirations and achievements of the Negro race," has just been re-

Evangeline E. Harris writes of Crispus Attucks, Phillis Wheatley, Benjamin Banneker, Booker T. Washington, Paul Laurence Dunbar, and George W. Carver, in a manner that will endear these persons to the little tots who read of them. Numerous illustrations by Lois Maillou Jones and Marshall K. Hood make her recently published book even more charming and comprehensive.

Hails Autobiography Of Jane Hunter As An Outstanding Book

DEC 21 1940

COLUMBUS, Ohio. — Declaring Jane Hunter's autobiography, "A Nickel and a Prayer," to be an extraordinary life story, comparable to Booker T. Washington's "Up From Slavery", John Bennett, noted journalist and author, gives fullsome praise to this book in a review published in the Sunday edition of the Charleston News and Courier, leading daily of South Carolina.

This book, says Mr. Bennett, in his review, is one of the most remarkable books produced by an American Negro. It tells the story of a South Carolinian Negro girl who pledged her life to wiping out some of the hazards which meet a young colored woman seeking decent employment and an honest living in a strange city.

"This woman", says Mr. Bennett, 'battling upward against prejudice, discrimination, skepticism, distrust, and the malignant treachery of corrupt politics, founded a home for the friendless Negro girl, who came to the large cities of the North during the migration years between 1910 and 1920. The Phyllis Wheatley Association of Cleveland, the institution she founded, may be regarded as a notable example of the most successful interracial cooperation in the field of social service. It is indeed revealed as the refuge for the working girl."

"Her book tells of plodding through," comments Mr. Bennett, "difficult year after difficult year, resolutely, patiently, courageously, often against stubborn and sometimes sinister opposition, to building an agency for the training and guidance of working girls. Cultivating a reasonable understanding between the white and dark races; and to demonstrate the truth that the only efficient method of dealing with a submerged minority is not paternalistic but democratic, by helping the underprivileged individual to help himself."

The Phyllis Wheatley Association, this book reveals, is the embodiment of the philosophy maintained at Tu kegee by Booker T. Washington; and, like Washington, the author concludes, against all crackpot theories, that "The Negro must develop his own abilities, and make his contribution to the world, as a Negro."

Other newspapers and prominent persons throughout the country including The Cleveland Plain Dealer and The Cleveland Press, leading morning and afternoor dailies of her own city, have joined in the favorable response which Miss Hunter's book has received throughout the country.

Book Review

"LOST ZOO" BY COUNTEE CULLEN IS IDEAL GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS

DEC 14 1940

THE LOST ZOO, by Countee Cullen, Illustrated, Harper & Brothers, New York, $2.50.

Countee Cullen is the well known author of "Color" and "Copper Sun", and his ' 'LostZoo" is much more than a book of children's poetry, brilliantly illustrated with paintings by the distinguished Colored artist, Charles Sebree of New York.

Satire on Life

THE LOST ZOO—A story of the animals who failed to get on board the Ark, is really another Countee Cullen satire on life characters which somehow suggests subtle pokes at undesirable racial traits. This is especially found in his fantastic but very human "Sleepamitemore", the "Ha-Ha-Ha." and the "Treasuretit."

In this alone it is quite educational.

Humor for Children

The children will laugh over much of the "Lost Zoo" because Countee Cullen and his cat, Christopher, write the story amid suppressed laughter throughout. You almost expect them to burst out anytime.

Take the scene of Noah wondering how to get all of the earth's inhabitants into the Zoo. Mr. Cullen draws a wide smile, with:

"Unhappy Noah, with mind askew,
He scratched his head as thinkers do,
When, quick as a thought, fast as a wish,
Came this advice: "Don't ask the fish!
Leave it to them to sink or swim!'
Which was, I think, most clever of him."

The book is an ideal gift for the little folks this Yuletide.

of a virtue. Since your publication printed the above facts first, why not tell the world about it?

Why do not the colored men and women on the research WPA project

do some real research? The facts published by the Virginia WPA were well known years ago.

STURGIS M. ROBINSON.

Co-Author

DEC 12 1940

L. C. Grad And White Professor Co-Author

M. ESTELLE TRENT

By HAROLD A. L. CLEMENT

SALISBURY, N.C., Nov. 29.—The other day we were scanning through the September (1940) issue of the Journal of Educational Research and discovered an article that was written by M. Estelle Trent in collaboration with George E. Hill, Professor in the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania.

The work entitled "Children's Interests In Comic Strips" brings to the forefront the literary ability and scholastic asset of the writers. The research paper was "presented before a section of the American Educational Research Association," in Cleveland, Feb. 27, 1939.

The co-authors point out the comic strip as becoming a feature of our American culture. One of the most common leisure-time hobbies of children and adults is the much-reading of the comics. The primary interest that children have in the funny section is for the adventure, excitement and action depicted, and secondly for its humor. The comic strip's interest for children are similar to that of the radio and the movies.

Miss Trent entered the department of Education of the University Pennsylvania in February 1937 and finished her study there the following year. She is a graduate of the winter class of 1937 from Livingstone College, where the young lady was an honor student and salutatorian of her class. The talented daughter of Livingstone's president is now employed as teacher at the J. C. Price School in Greensboro.

With much interest the co-authors' article was read by Mr. B. L. Smith, superintendent of the Greensboro Public Schools, and after considering the value of the research work requested that Miss Trent continue her research investigation in the school system of that city.

Miss Trent is a member of the AKA Sororitv.

Rare History Of Africa Found In Hampton Library

The Black dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Bibliography Reveals Unusual Negro Collection

DEC 26 1940

HAMPTON INSTITUTE, Va.—Published in 1632, one of the oldest known histories of Africa has been found in the Negro collection of the Collis P. Huntington library of Hampton institute, it was announced today by Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, new president of the famed institution of learning for Negroes.

Consisting of two volumes of more than 800 pages, this description of Africa during the earliest slave days was written in the Italian language by Leonis Africani. The two volume set, in a perfect state of preservation, is now on exhibition in the George Foster Peabody room of the campus library. The only other set of this African history, known to be in existence, is preserved in the rare documents room of the Library of Congress.

This valuable set of books is but one of the 5075 items listed in "A Classified Catalogue of the Negro Collection in the Collis P. Huntington Library," which has just been published by Hampton Institute. Mentor A. Howe and Roscoe E. Lewis, who compiled the publication under the Virginia Writers' Project, state in the Foreword, that 'the classification of the material in the Collis P. Huntington Library began as a necessary stage in the preparation of THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA. The many requests that have been made for source material on various aspects of Negro life have revealed an urgent need for a catalogue of this valuable collection"

Bibliographers have predicted that the publication of this Classified Catalogue will reveal the Negro collection at Hampton as on a par with or even superior to the famed Schomburg Collection of the New York 135th Street Library and the Moorland Negro Collection of Howard University.

Consisting of two parts, (1) The Negro in Africa, and (2) The Negro in America, the catalogue contains a Preface by Eudora Ramsay Richardson, State Supervisor of the Virginia Writers' Project, a Foreword by Mentor A. Howe and Roscoe E. Lewis, the compilers, and an authors' index to the items that have been classified, covering in all 291 pages.

The new publication makes available for the first time a complete reference bibliography to the vast amount of source material relating to the Negro that has accumulated in the Institute library since the school's founding in 1868.

During Hampton's early years, numerous philanthropists, many of them former members of various anti-slavery societies, turned over their libraries to General Samuel Chapman Armstrong for the use of the freedmen whom he was educating. Of special interest in this collection are books containing the autographs of numerous famous Americans. Prominent names that are represented are those of Daniel Webster, Lysander Spooner, John Brown, William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Harriett Beecher Stowe, Henry Ward Beecher, Abraham Lincoln, William Wilberforce, John M. Langston, Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Charles W. Chestnutt, Blanche K. Bruce and Booker T. Washington.

In 1908, George Foster Peabody, trustee of the school, secured the Malone collection of 1400 books for Hampton. In 1914 the entire Negro collection of Dr. Phil Broome Brooks, a prominent Negro physician of Washington, D. C., was given to Hampton Institute. In later years the various collections donated by friends of Hampton have been expanded by the purchase of several thousand books and pamphlets, some of them rare out of print editions, others contemporary writings by and about the Negro.

In addition to the 1632 African set, the Classified Catalogue of the Hampton collection includes first edition accounts of the slave trade written.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
March 25, 1940

The South Tells Its Story

BY FRANK DANIEL

THE GENERATION of Southerners now reaching maturity continues to find in their heritage rich materials for stories which evoke the history of this section. This is true when the Southerners no longer live in the South—for instance, Frances Gaither, who was born in Tennessee, brought up in Mississippi, and spent several years in Alabama, now lives in New York. But she returned to Alabama for the scene of "Follow the Drinking Gourd," which has just been published.

The story is of thirty-nine Negro slaves, men, women and children, sent by their Georgia owner to clear and cultivate a new farm in Alabama. More broadly it is an examination of slavery under the conditions of absentee ownership, and a demonstration of the wastefulness of the system. For Hurricane Farm, on the fertile banks of the Alabama River, is exhausted after a dozen years' operation. The master remains in Georgia; his field hands are under the authority of first one and then another inadequate overseer. The "drinking gourd" of the novel is the Big Dipper, a constellation by which runaway slaves learn to locate the North Star, which may guide them to the Ohio River, where abolitionists promise to aid their escape to freedom.

Nearly the same rich farming country provides the scene of Florence Glass Palmer's new novel, "Spring Will Come Again." Mrs. Palmer grew up in Alabama and now lives in Pensacola. The time of her story is after the Civil War—from 1880 to 1900. Here are the farms, no longer so fertile, perhaps, to challenge the enterprise of an impoverished generation bred to cotton growing. Here are Negro laborers, newly freed from slavery, and still in transition from their former condition to that of responsible, self-sustaining citizens. Here are the land-owning Bourbons with such property as they salvaged from the fall of the Confederacy. And to the scene come the agents of Northern capital, seeking sites where cotton mills may be profitably located.

Brainard Cheney is a Georgian who lives now in Nashville. "Lightwood," published last fall, is concerned with the same post-war era of which Mrs. Palmer writes, but his scene is South Georgia, in regions where the citizens fight to regain timberlands lost under carpetbagger rule. The great pine forests are the prize for which Northern investors contend.

Emerson Waldman's "Broad Is the Way," also published last fall, is concerned with life in Mississippi towns, and it is a distinguished study of Jewish citizens of the South in the era preceding and during the first World War. Gwen Bristow writes of the same years in "This Side of Glory," her third novel concerned with Louisiana families from pre-Revolutionary times to the present. Miss Bristow is a New Orleans newspaperwoman. Her new novel tells how the war boom in cotton saved an ancestral plantation from ruinous debts. It has added social import as it merges at last two strains of Southerners—the aristocrat and the ambitious underprivileged—who have moved through "Deep Summer" and "The Handsome Road" into the twentieth century scene of "This Side of Glory."

Two new novels with Arkansas backgrounds are "Watch Us Grow," by Harry Hamilton, who wrote "Banjo on My Knee," and "The Unwilling Journey," by C. P. Lee, a native of Arkansas and a former Rhodes scholar. "Watch Us Grow" is a lively picture of a self-conscious town on a Mississippi mudbank. Most of its problems are swept away, along with its homes and stores, when the Mississippi shifts its channel and sweeps the site down to the gulf. "The Unwilling Journey," somewhat autobiographical, tells of an Arkansas family's transit from a small farm community, whose inhabitants cling to inherited standards, to the up-and-coming city of Pine Bluff. The depression of the early 1930's intensifies the drama of a new way of living.

Erskine Caldwell's new novel, "Trouble in July," is a dark, stirring tale of a man hunt in a bleak south-Georgia town during the hot, idle summer days. Again he uses humor and detachment to make tragedy more forceful and to emphasize the harshness of human relationships when life has few mitigating circumstances. But Mr. Caldwell again presents, in "Trouble in July," the theme he seems unable to resist—the idea that even the most futile and incapable men rise occasionally toward dignity and manliness.

The fall and winter have seen the extraordinary popularity of Medora Field's mystery story, "Who Killed Aunt Maggie?" Ostensibly designed as a thriller, Miss Field (Mrs. Angus Perkerson, of The Atlanta Journal), has provided a picture of a group of Atlanta people, and their lives in a century-old home near Roswell, which affords, besides its abundant entertainment, a highly accurate and effective reflection of a gracious mode of modern living.

ur Stories From
pportunity Starred
n '40 Anthology

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Among the stories listed as "distinctive" in Edward J. O'Brien's "The Best Short Stories. 1940" are four which appeared in recent issues of OPPORTUNITY, Journal of Negro Life.

One of these stories—"Salute To The Passing,' by Chester B. Himes—is given two asterisks in the listing; the others receive one each. They are: "The Makin's," by Marita B. Bonner, "Santa Claus Is A White Man," by John Henrik Clarke, and "The Fine Line," by Marian Minus.

The last name story is soon to be republished in "The Penguin Parade," an English magazine devoted to outstanding shot fiction.

Editor Lewis Plans To Publish Georgia Goodwill Volume

J. J. Lewis, president of the Goodwill Club, Columbus, Ga., announced Thursday plans to publish a Goodwill Year Book of Georgia in which outstanding business and professional men of the state will be listed.

He was in Atlanta Wednesday and Thursday in connection with a tour he is making of the leading cities of the state contacting various individuals to garner material for the book.

Outstanding educators of both groups are contributing articles.

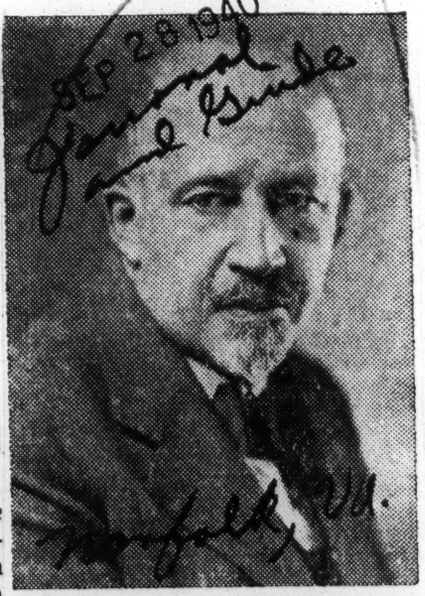
Data Available on 'The Atlanta Negro'

OCT 4 1940

ATLANTA.—"The Atlanta Negro," a collection of important statistical data on the Negro population of this city, has recently come off the press. It has been prepared by Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, in chairman of the department of mathematics at Atlanta university, with the assistance of Marion M. Hamilton of Atlanta university. The study was sponsored by the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education, in cooperation with the National Youth Administration of Georgia.

Autobiographer

SEP 28 1940



DR. W. E. B. DuBOIS, poet, writer and educator, who has recently written his life story titled "Dusk of Dawn: An Essay Toward an Autobiography of a Race Concept."

The book, an 88,000 word treatise is being distributed through Harcourt, Bruce, publishers.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
June 18, 1940

The Making of a Poet

YOU WILL FIND no mention of the fact in "Who's Who," nor would you ever have heard it from his lips whose smile was so haunting, but Heyward DuBose was the eldest son of the eldest son in direct line from the Judge Thomas Heywood, who was one of South Carolina's signers of the Declaration.

In the opinion of his clan, Heyward, when royalties eventually showered upon him much like treasure trove, should have purchased the home of that ancestor and set up stately residence therein, for it is perhaps the most beautiful eighteenth century house in Charleston. But he chose not to do so.

DuBose Heyward, author of "Porgy" and "Mamba's Daughters," died Sunday of a heart attack. He was only 54. But he had written his name large in American literature in an importantly productive career of less than 15 years.

"Porgy" as a novel, later as a play, fashioned in collaboration with his wife, Dorothy Kuhns Heyward, and finally as an opera, "Porgy and Bess," with music by the late George Gershwin, gave him his great fame. But he began his creative work as a poet and while, as he said, he used poetry as training school for prose, he remained to his death essentially a poet. With Josephine and Hervey Allen, Laura Gragg, Beatrice Ravanel and John Bennett, he organized the Poetry Society of South Carolina that became an association unique and important in its influence on American letters.

What was the personal history of this young Southern writer? His father died when DuBose Heyward was 2 years of age. When he was 9, the boy began to help support his family by selling newspapers. At 14 he left public school and entered a hardware store. An attack of infantile paralysis left him helpless for three years. A semi-invalid, he finally obtained opportunity to do odd jobs around the waterfront of Charleston. As a warehouse checker he observed and listened to the Sea Island Negroes and recorded on the sensitized cells of his brain the beauty of their imagery and their speech, which later were to appear in "Porgy" and "Mamba's Daughters." He became a salesman of insurance and was so successful that in time he established his own business It gave him the chance he had sought. He now had time to turn to writing.

Such was the background of one of the salient figures in the literature of the New South. Like the gentle, sensitive Lanier, he underwent an ordeal such as few of us encounter. But for all anyone will ever know, the pain and the vicissitudes that haunted DuBose Heyward were elements in the alchemy that gave to his work its permanent worth.

Crisis Editor In Radio Talk On "Native Son"

NEW YORK CITY—An interview on "Negro Response to Native Son" was given here July [illegible] p. m. over the New York municipal radio station, WNYC, by Roy Wilkins, editor of the Crisis magazine and assistant secretary of the N.A.A.C.P. Mr. Wilkins was interviewed by Prof. Warren Bower of the English department of New York University.

Durham, N. C., Morning Herald
July 28, 1940

WRIGHT TO SPEAK TO DURHAM GROUP

Negro Author Of "Native Son" Will Talk At White Rock Church

Richard Wright, Negro author of the current best-selling novel, 'Native Son," will speak tonight at 8 o'clock at the White Rock Baptist Church on Fayetteville Street before an audience of white and Negro guests of the Durham Negro Youth Council. Wright will make an informal address entitled "How Bigger Was Born" giving his own interpretation of the significance of the hero of his novel.

The Negro author is now in Chapel Hill collaborating with Paul Green in the dramatization of "Native Son" which Orson Welles will produce on Broadway next season. This public appearance, it was learned, would be the only one he will make in North Carolina at this time.

"Native Son" is a story about the tragedy implicit in the environment in which the Negro in urban America finds himself.

BOOK REVIEW

By Fanny Buford

Defender
1-20-40
Chicago Ill.

THE NEGRO'S OPPORTUNITY
By HENRY L. JONES
Author and Publisher

Mr. Jones has written what might be described as a loosely assembled series of blurbs on various books and magazines, together with an intermixture of pep talks and personal pet ideas—all of which he calls "The Negro's Opportunity." On the title page of the book is written: "A Job for You! A Career! Own Your Own Business! Choose Your Own Career! Select the Business You Like! Choose Your Own Location!"

Thus, exuberantly, Mr. Jones points out that manifold opportunities lie about on the loose simply quivering with impatience to be picked up and tried.

Unfortunately, the philosophy of the self-made man that is the book's main premise took to its deathbed when machines made inroads into our economic system and was finally buried in 1929 when the world lapsed into the Great Depression. Sufficient to prevent its reincarnation in any form are the holding companies and huge corporations that keep a stranglehold on little business and whose employees are treated as impersonally as the machines they operate; the millions and millions of unemployed, the Ph.D's and the master's and bachelor degrees on the relief rolls; the hungry, wretched migrants pushed off their farms by the tractor and the dust, the sharecropper whose children have never known a good honest-to-god square meal in all their lifetime.—All of these brutal realities make the philosophy of the self-made man and such 19th century romanticisms as "You cannot stay down if you are courageous enough to rise." Your success depends upon you," meaningless and ridiculous.

Perhaps there are formulas to success, but diligence, ambition, and originality are not sufficient to insure them. Wouldn't the more fundamental and far-reaching advice be to tell us to fight to preserve and increase social legislation whose aim is to protect us as individuals and make it possible for us "to pursue our happiness" in the way that we would?

Mr. Jones' prime theory for success is to do what you want to do, that, is work at what you like.

Many a starved and frustrated soul has wished that this were possible. It would take an impressive and long-studied prescription to show the majority of us how we might quit jobs we are dissatisfied with and step temerariously into a career of our own choosing, and, at the same time, eat regularly and pay the rent when it next came due. Reasons why we cannot are found in the U.S. Census under tables enumerating the number of jobs and professions existing and the number of people waiting to fill them.

Create a new business, a new profession, says the author—such as have done Henry R. Luce, of Time, Life, and Fortune fame, Robert F. DeGraff, who has gotten rich off his idea of printing popular books in 25c pocket size, or DeWitt Wallace, editor and originator of Reader's Digest. (Among successes in the Negro race Jones mentions only George W. Carver and Booker T. Washington.)

One hundred thirty million people cannot all have original ideas, nor can those who do always get the capital to develop them, despite Mr. Jones' positive statement: "If you have a good, sound workable idea, it is not difficult to get the cash required to operate with."

The author has written the book, I believe, out of the honesty of his convictions and there is no doubt that it will appeal to a good many people. Stories of other people's successes intrigue us and we like to escape in their achievements. But let us hope that fewer and fewer people allow themselves to be thus drugged. What we need, white and black, is action, not dreams.

Charleston S. C. News & Courier
December 25, 1940

Your Government's Function?

The federal theater project of the WPA has been discontinued, and Miss Hallie Flanagan, who was the director of it, has written a book, a good book the reviewers say, in which she relates not only the benefits it conferred on thousands of poor, struggling, half-starved actors and musicians, but how it accomplished amazingly fine results for the elevation of the American theater.

This federal project, it appears, somehow never got out of the great cities of the North, it made no excursions to Laurens, Abbeville, Walhalla, Charleston, Edgefield, Union and Bennettsville, where the need of improvement in the arts is deeply felt. This part of the United States was probably but erroneously considered by Miss Flanagan and her associated talents as a hopeless proposition, albeit the truth is that there were and are not less than ten thousand, perhaps thirty thousand, persons of undeveloped histrionic gifts in South Carolina. Many of these thousands are colored, many more are white folks, and all that is needed to convert them into inspiring movie actors, speaking actors and singers of songs, is stimulus. When the federal theater was going strong they were forgotten, slighted, and hundreds of thousands of our people were denied the delights of the "depression" enjoyed in Boston, Detroit, New York, Seattle and Los Angeles.

So, conceding that the federal theater project was a blessing to the populace, in the Big Towns, that is claimed by the devoted, entranced and accomplished Miss Flanagan, the question arises:

Is it the business of the federal government to levy taxes on the Americans, of whom the South Carolinians somewhat are, to provide jobs for the play-actors, horn-tooters and fiddlers who can't find jobs for themselves?

Did the framers of the constitution intend that for "the general welfare" the government of the United States should go into the theater, concert and circus business for the entertainment of the population, in order that it might escape boredom?

Would the reestablishment of the federal theater project be in the way of national defense?

The abandonment of the project, so they say, has left more than a million dollars worth of stage properties, now in storage, on the hands of the republic. Some unemployed play-writing genius should be hired to write a tragedy with the Passamaquoddy, or Moonbeam scheme, as its subject, and the actors' project should be revived for its presentation. After that the project should be suspended again, until the emergency has passed.

BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

Erskine Caldwell's New Novel of the Deep South

TROUBLE IN JULY. By Erskine Caldwell. 241 pp. New York: Duell, Sloan & Pearce. $2.50.

"TROUBLE IN JULY" is the first full-length novel that Erskine Caldwell has written in some seven years. One might well expect him, during this lengthy interval, to have developed new power, and perhaps to have turned his gaze to new horizons. For Caldwell had clearly reached a crucial point in his career. He came to be that peculiar phenomenon, a novelist more talked about than read. To the public he is known chiefly as the author of the novel from which it was made that play of astonishing longevity, "Tobacco Road." To the critics he has been—for ten years—a fresh and original American writer who, to quote only one of them, "must be looked upon with immense hope." They, and this reviewer among them, have been saying what they said of Steinbeck when he published "Tortilla Flat," and for similar reasons: that Caldwell is on the verge of doing great things.

It is obviously useless to go on saying that, so we must face the depressing task of reporting that "Trouble in July" represents not only no further advancement in Caldwell's art but a definite falling off. All of his fine craftsmanship is still in evidence, all of his simplicity and clarity of style, his brilliant selectivity of detail and his understatement. He still has his ability to penetrate the strange, futile, and apparently self-destructive behavior of the submerged folk of the Deep South, and to reach into the very core of their being. But they are the same people, moving in the same patterns and motivated by the same forces, about whom he has been writing for years. And besides, while most of his earlier books and stories have been about Negroes and impoverished sharecroppers, for whom Caldwell was able to move the reader to deep pity, "Trouble in July" is largely about a time-serving Sheriff for whom Caldwell himself shows little but contempt.

Jeff McCurtain, Sheriff of Julie County, Georgia, for eleven years had been regularly named for office by his political boss, Judge Ben Allen. Jeff was good enough at catching petty offenders and "niggers," and he was careful not to tread on the toes of important people. Whenever there was real trouble, such as a lynching, Jeff was sure to be away fishing although all three hundred pounds of him loathed that occupation more than anything else on earth. He was a master at evasion. When, at the beginning of this novel, one of his deputies awakens him at midnight about "something important," Jeff mumbles, "That's the trouble with political life. Everything's important until you look it straight in the face. Once you look at it, it's pretty apt to turn out to be something that could have waited."

He thought that this lynching too could wait, could "be kept politically clean" by going fishing. But to his amazement his boss, Judge Allen, sent word that he was to stay on the job this time. There was a new political factor, a fanatic by the name of Mrs. Narcissa Calhoun, who was gathering signatures to send all the Negroes back to Africa. It was she who reported the offense of the cotton-chopper, Sonny Clark, against a white girl. Allen had his suspicions, and was looking to the political finish of Mrs. Narcissa Calhoun.

He had, however, reckoned without the accumulated fat, mental and physical, of his sheriff. The last thing Jeff wanted to do was to snatch a runaway Negro from the grip of an aroused and drunken mob. So he looked his orders from Allen straight in the face, and found they could wait. He had important business to do: he had to recover a harmless old

Geechee Negro, Sam Brinson, who had been abducted from the jailhouse by a gang looking for Sonny Clark. Jeff found that he had developed quite an affection, quite a convenient affection, for Sam. Out of this situation Caldwell deftly extracts his usual mixture of satire, farce and tragedy for the sheriff was hard put to avoid coming across Sonny while looking earnestly for Sam.

The criss-crossing of the two manhunts, the one farcical and the other tragic, produces a bitter comedy of errors. There are a few memorable passages, such as the one in which Sonny trots obediently at the heels of the man who is about to give him up for the crime he has not committed. In that passage Caldwell has his heart in his writing. But for the most part, because Jeff is a pretty unlovely central character he hasn't. Why then the stress on Jeff? I can only guess that having told and retold lynching stories from the viewpoint of the lynchers and the lynched, Caldwell may have written "Trouble in July" to tell us what the long arm of the law was doing all the while. Caldwell certainly has made that clear. But once we would have expected him to do it movingly and memorably.

Savannah, Ga., News
December 4, 1940

"Gullah" Is Story of Negro Life By Crum

"Gullah," a story of Negro life in the Carolina sea islands, by Mason Crum, is essentially an introduction to the social history of these people. Because their lives have been so intertwined with the lives and fortunes of the white people of the section, the author has given a complete picture of life in the Carolina low country, not only as it is today, but as it was in the days when the rice community enjoyed financial prosperity and a significant culture. Woven into this study are certain aspects of contemporary Negro life, including the dialect, the spirituals, the Negro's experience as a child of nature, and his religion.

Mason Crum was born at Rowesville, S. C., a small village in the coastal plain of that state. As with all Southern boys of that period, his life was closely associated with the lives of the Negroes. His real interest in the Southern Negro dates back to college days when he was influenced by W. D. Weatherford's book, "Negro Life in the South." Dr. Crum completed his undergraduate work at Wofford College, receiving his A. B. degree in 1909. Following his graduation, he studied theology at Vanderbilt University, philosophy at Harvard University, and education at the University of South Carolina, where he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. For the past ten years he has been a member of the faculty of the Department of Religion of Duke University.

Richmond, Va. News-Leader
December 7, 1940

Bibliography Made At Hampton School

What is probably the most extensive publication ever issued on books, pamphlets and essays concerning the Negro race has just been compiled at Hampton Institute. It is a classified catalogue of the Negro collection in the Collis P. Huntington Library at that college. This collection, one of the most valuable of its kind in any library, consists of approximately 6,000 titles, many now out of print.

This 300-page bibliography is the work of the Virginia Writers' Project of the WPA and was prepared in its entirety by the Negro division of the staff working under the direction of Roscoe E. Lewis, former supervisor of Negro activities, and Mentor Howe, research editor.

The first ten pages are devoted to credits, a preface, table of contents, and foreward. The main section consists of 256 pages while the final thirty-four contain an alphabetical index of the authors represented.

BOOKS OF THE TIMES

By CHARLES POORE

RICHARD WRIGHT'S "Native Son,"* an enormously stirring novel of crime and punishment, is published this morning. It is a story to trouble midnight and the noon's repose, as Mr. Eliot once said about another matter, and to haunt the imagination many days.

It was widely praised long before publication. Indeed, few other recent novels have been preceded by more advance critical acclamation, or lived up to the expectations they aroused so well. Mr. Wright is a Negro. His novel concerns a young Negro, Bigger Thomas, who twice commits murder before your eyes, and the whole dark background of his crimes. It is an extraordinarily difficult task he has undertaken—on the Dostoievskian scale—and the praise is soundly based on his accomplishment as a novelist.

Richard Wright's New Novel

Edward Weeks, editor of The Atlantic Monthly, calls "Native Son" "a performance of great talent—powerful, disturbing, unquestionably authentic." We'll question the authenticity of Bigger Thomas's ability to discuss the wider implications of his tragic destiny so expertly. But that is another matter. Henry Seidel Canby calls it "the finest novel yet written by an American Negro"—which it is, without a doubt. It would be a fine novel no matter who wrote it: though, to perpetrate an Irish bull in all sincerity, only a Negro could have written "Native Son." In a special introduction, Dorothy Canfield Fisher makes the parallel with Dostoievsky, observes that this novel "can be guaranteed to harrow up any human heart capable of compassion or honest self-questioning," and shows how the story of Bigger Thomas bears out the studies in racial barriers carried out by the American Youth Commission under the chairmanship of Owen D. Young.

The praise has been cumulative. It gathered while "Native Son" awaited publication after it had been chosen (with Conrad Richter's "The Trees," which will be reviewed here tomorrow) by the Book-of-the-Month Club for March. Finally, we are told that the Guggenheim awards committee read "Native Son" in manuscript, and, on the strength of its strength, gave Mr. Wright—whose earlier book of stories, "Uncle Tom's Children," was also a prizewinner—one of its fellowships.

A Story of Crime and Punishment

Mr. Wright drives his story forward at a furious yet skillfully controlled pace. The full drama is unfolded in just about two weeks. There is first of all the prophetic killing of a rat in the room where Bigger, his mother, his sister and his brother live in quarreling, desperate squalor. Then Bigger, who has a bad name as a braggart living by shady devices, goes out to meet the poolroom gang environment provides. He plans a hold-up he is afraid to carry out. To hide his cowardice he terrorizes one of his friends.

You see his character. That is the point. Mr. Wright is champion of a race, not defender of an individual wrongdoer. Bigger gets a job as chauffeur in the house of Mr. Dalton, who is a philanthropist toward Negroes and owner of many Negro tenements. Mary Dalton, the daughter of the house, and her friend Jan, a supernally noble radical, make him drink with them. Through an accident, Bigger kills Mary Dalton. That is the first murder.

Terror Over the South Side

There is a gruesome dismemberment to hide the crime. Bigger thinks of demanding money, and makes his girl, Bessie, help him. His crime is discovered. After that there is the flight, the second murder, deliberate and brutal, the manhunt spreading terror over the whole South Side, then the spectacular capture and the day of reckoning in court for all concerned.

It is a long time since we've read a new novelist who had such command of the technique and resources of the novel. Mr. Wright's method is generally Dreiserian; but he has written his American tragedy in a notably firm prose. He knows how to tell a story. He knows how to develop a character, how to show influences playing on a man or a situation. Reflection blends into action. Accents and intonations are caught. Ideas are dramatized with concrete and inescapable images. And dialogue goes crackling down the page.

Bigger is a symbol. But, as we have suggested, he is able to express what he symbolizes more fluently than seems natural, considering how clearly Mr. Wright has made us see his life. There is a constant, probing inquiry into the state of the world that creates people like Bigger Thomas. We do not doubt it. We cannot. But we can and do doubt that it could flow so coherently through Bigger's mind. It's better left to the lawyer's summation in the court-room scene.

The Individual and the Race

"Native Son" is, in truth, one of those compelling books to which people pay the uneasy tribute of saying their picture is impressive but overdrawn. That places Richard Wright in very good company—from Charles Dickens to John Steinbeck. After all, we do not lack stories of quaint Negro life.

Apart from the ideas that give it volume, force and scope, "Native Son" has some magnificently realized scenes: in the early part, where Biggers a stranger and afraid, as Housman said, in a world he never made, gropes for freedom from the walls that hold him; in the flight across the roofs and the stand high over the world, in the jail where processions of people come to see him at the inquest and in the howling mob outside the court. The measure in which it shakes community is the measure of its effectiveness.

*NATIVE SON. By Richard Wright. 359 pages.

OUT TODAY!

"...a star for notable success."

"The most powerful American novel since *The Grapes of Wrath*."—Clifton Fadiman, The New Yorker

RICHARD WRIGHT

Author of UNCLE TOM'S CHILDREN

NATIVE SON

HENRY SEIDEL CANBY, *Book-of-the-Month Club News*, says: "The finest novel yet written by an American Negro, adventurous, exciting. It is no tract or defense plea. Like *The Grapes of Wrath*, it is a fully realized story of unfortunates, uncompromisingly realistic, and quite as human as it is Negro. To the growing list of artistic achievements of a high quality by a race which is, perhaps, singularly gifted in art, NATIVE SON must surely be added, with a star for notable success. It has us all by the ears. It is certainly a performance of great talent—powerful, disturbing, unquestionably authentic."—EDWARD A. WEEKS, *Editor, Atlantic Monthly*. $2.50.

A Book-of-the-Month Club Selection for March

HARPERS

Negro Leader Relates Here Development Of His Ideas

DUSK OF DAWN. By W. E. B. Dubois. Harcourt, Brace. $3.75.

At this time, when the democracies of Europe are disappearing one by one and American democracy is girding its loins, the appearance of Dr. Dubois' book, "Dusk of Dawn," is more than usually significant, for in it the author sums up a lifetime devoted to the struggle of making democracy in the United States more than a name. This he has done in his ceaseless and single-minded fight to assure the extension of the benefits and the responsibilities of democracy to his twelve million fellow negroes in the United States. So constant has been his devotion to this problem that he subtitlesity his book, "The Autobiography"—not of himself but—"of a Race Concept."

To follow the author's development of his concept of race is an exciting experience. We see him first a boy in his native New England village when his race was adventure challenging him to excel his classmates. We follow him to Fisk University and to his first experiences in the South with the mass of his people and their problems. We watch the development of his youthful idealism into the firm conviction that education and leadership based in the "talented tenth" of his race will serve to combat race prejudice which, as a young man, he understands to be the result of mass ignorance and the ill-will of a malevolent minority.

Crusade vs. Dogma

From Harvard to Berlin, across Europe, and back to the United States as an instructor at universities in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Atlanta, he devotes his energy to exploding the fallacies of race with scientific and statistical research. He tangles with Booker T. Washington not so much in basic idealism, but over what might now be called the latter's policy of appeasement, and especially his autocratic political maneuvers.

When his insistence on truth as he saw it began to make embarrassing his presence on the faculty of Atlanta University, he resigned in 1909 to become the editor of the "Crisis," organ of the newly-founded National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. For 25 years he devoted his talent here, now adding to his scientific attack the potent force of law, combatting through the courts the infamous grandfather clauses, all forms of segregation, and in Congress, lynching.

New Development In Theory

Yet as dogma after dogma is exploded by fact, and victory upon victory is gained through the Supreme Court, he sees that prejudice is in no whit diminished and segregation remains rife. His "talented tenth" fails to lead, but follows simply the pattern of white life. He realizes the dominance of world economics in the pattern of prejudice, and becomes more and more convinced that the roots of racial antipathy have sunk deep into the subconscious and irrational mind of man, that the hope of race lies in self-organization of its chief power—the power of consumers, which he considers is becoming more important in the changing economic order of the world. He realizes that this means acceptance of segregation, even if to wield it as a weapon against itself. Again his insistence on speaking his mind brings him into diffculty, and after a quarter of a century he leaves the "Crisis" to return South to [illegible] doctrine.

All this story is told in a prose that has made Dubois a master of style, now lyric, now challenging, always powerful. And, in this work, a new restraint, born of philosophic maturity, leads him to lessen the polemic bitterness of his earlier work. His new book is valuable both as a sociological treatise and as an historical document of a period stretching as he says, "from Victoria to the second Roosevelt," or as Lewis Gannett aptly states "from Frederick Douglass to Richard Wright."

COLLINS C. GEORGE.
Associate Professor in Language, LeMoyne College.

SEP 29 1940
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At last—
an Entire Race
has found its
Spokesman

NATIVE SON by RICHARD WRIGHT

"The Negro 'American Tragedy'..."

Richard Wright is not merely the best Negro writer but an American author as distinctive as any now writing."
—Peter Monro Jack, N. Y. Times Book Review

"'The Grapes of Wrath' of 1940..."

Something new in American fiction . . . compassionate and understanding."*—Lewis Gannett, N. Y. Herald Tribune*

"Haunts the imagination..."

A story to trouble midnight and the noon's repose."
—Charles Poore, N. Y. Times

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Voice Of The People

Expressions from readers upon topics of current or general interest are welcomed. Writing should be on one side of the paper only and should not exceed 300 words. Anonymous communications will not be printed and letter unaccompanied by self-addressed, stamped envelope will not be returned. The News reserves the right to shorten letters of excessive length.

BANNING BOOKS

To the Editor The News:

I for one cheered when I read the April 4 editorial in The Birmingham News criticising the banning of "Native Son" and "The Grapes of Wrath" by our Birmingham Library.

It is the task of a newspaper that makes any claims to being progressive to be on guard against any inroads on the freedom of thought and expression. And banning books is a very serious and dangerous attack on intellectual freedom.

Here's looking forward to The Birmingham News to continue to take up the cudgels when some forget the democratic traditions of the United States.

D. TAYLOR.

Birmingham.

Vital Chapter In History of Negro People

ORATION BY FREDERICK DOUGLASS at the unveiling of the Freedmen's Monument in memory of Abraham Lincoln. Pathway Press, 200 W. 125th St., New York. Price: 25 cents.

By Angelo Herndon

Beautifully designed, and with a reproduction of the monument dedicated to Abraham Lincoln by the freed slaves at Lincoln Park, Washington, D. C., April 14, 1876, this publication is an important historic document which brings to the fore once again a vital chapter in the history of Negro Americans. It should be read by all.

Its present social value can not be overestimated, especially when the role of the Negro people and the Martyr President Lincoln are being held up for ridicule, slander and distortion in such films as Gone With the Wind and Birth of a Nation.

Considered merely from the point of its oratorical worth, it ranks as one of the best in the history of American public affairs. In addition to its sterling qualities of literary accomplishment, the heroic struggles of the Negro people for freedom are recorded with moving impact.

Indeed this publication should stimulate wide-spread interest of all Americans in the crucial problems of the Negro people. That the Negro people were not the docile creatures, happy with their plight of slavery, as depicted in Gone With the Wind and the treatment of Negroes in American school text books, newspapers, etc. is graphically emphasized by Douglass in the following words:

"When, therefore, it shall be asked what we have to do with the memory of Abraham Lincoln, or what Abraham Lincoln had to do with us, the answer is ready, full and complete. . . . Under his wise and beneficent rule we saw ourselves gradually lifted from the depths of slavery to the heights of liberty and manhood. . . . Under his rule we saw our brave sons and brothers laying off the rags of bondage, and being clothed in the blue uniforms of the soldiers of the United States. . . . We saw two hundred thousand of our dark and dusky people responding to the call of Abraham Lincoln, and with muskets on their shoulders . . . timing their footsteps to liberty and union under the national flag."

This Oration also contains an appendix which gives the history of the monument and how the freed slaves raised the funds with which to build it.

PUBLIC STAMPEDES FOR "NATIVE SON"

Courier 3-30-40 Pittsburgh, Pa.

Richard Wright's Novel Is A Complete Sell-Out 3 Hours After Publication

Unprecedented demand for Negro's powerful novel caused by overwhelming critical reception.

"The Grapes of Wrath of '40"

says Lewis Gannett as critics compare author to Steinbeck, Dreiser, Dostoevski

'ENORMOUSLY STIRRING"

"NATIVE SON is an enormously stirring novel . . . a story to trouble midnight and the noon's repose and to haunt the imagination."—Charles Poore, New York Times.

"PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY"

"NATIVE SON is more than the terrible, blood-curdling crime story it at first superficially seems. Accented by one sensational scene after another—the unpremeditated murder of a wealthy young white girl, followed by the murder of his Negro sweetheart to cover up the first crime—this is a scientific, psychological study of the effects of poor housing, unemployment, discrimination and segregation in the formation of the character of Bigger Thomas.

It is a highly complicated story—exciting and often terrifying.—Marvel Cook, Amsterdam News.

"DEEPLY COMPASSIONATE"

"NATIVE SON is something new in American fiction . . . a deeply compassionate and understanding novel. As near as anything can be, it is The Grapes of Wrath of 1940."—Lewis Gannett, New York Herald Tribune.

"OVERWHELMING"

"NATIVE SON is the most powerful American novel to appear since The Grapes of Wrath . . . so overwhelmingly is its central drive, so gripping its mounting intensity. It does for the Negro what Theodore Dreiser's American Tragedy did for the bewildered inarticulate American white."—Clifton Fadiman, The New Yorker.

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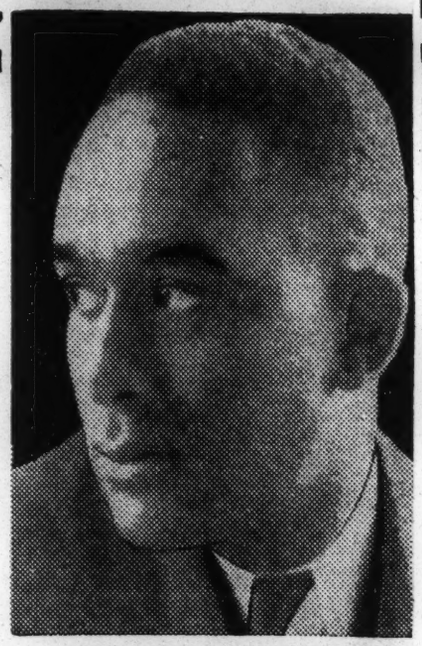
"For all its murder-mystery suspense, it is no more simply a crime story than was Crime and Punishment."—Time Magazine.



RICHARD WRIGHT
Author of Native Son
Greeted by the critics as one of the great contemporary novelists

"TREMENDOUS"

"NATIVE SON is a novel of tremendous power and beauty."—Newsweek.

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PUBLIC STAMPEDES FOR "NATIVE SON"

The New York Age

RICHARD WRIGHT'S NOVEL IS A COMPLETE SELL-OUT 3 HOURS AFTER PUBLICATION

4-6-40

Unprecedented demand for Negro's powerful novel caused by overwhelming critical reception

New York, N. Y.

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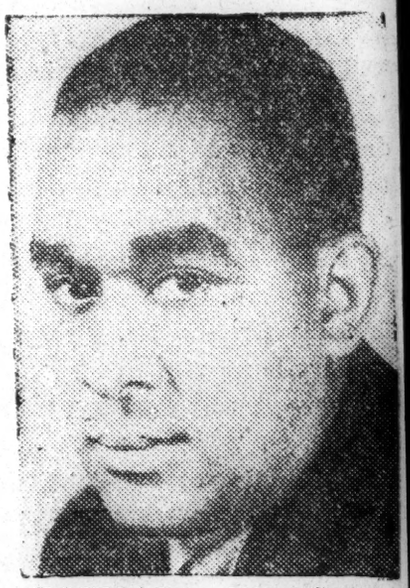

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DuBois Autobiography To Be Featured In Literature Exhibit At Exposition

By TED POSTON
(Staff Correspondent)

CHICAGO, Ill., June 20—"Dusk to Dawn," the forthcoming autobiography of Dr. W. E. B. DuBois and one of the most significant and eagerly-awaited books of the year, will be featured in the Literature Exhibit of the American Negro Exposition which opens here on July 4 at the Chicago Coliseum.

Although the book will not be released until this Fall, Harcourt and Brace, publishers, have consented to cooperate with the exposition in the promotion of the publication, Horace R. Cayton, supervisor of the Literature Exhibit revealed this week.

An enlarged reproduction of the jacket "Dusk at Dawn" and possible excerpts from the manuscript will be exhibited at the exposition.

Through the efforts of Mrs. Dorothy Porter of the Moorland Foundation at Howard University, more than 300 items have been contributed by publisher on books and material dealing with and written by Negroes.

The Chicago Public Library has contributed a complete exhibit on slave literature, and several rare first editions have been loaned by the George Cleveland Hall branch through Miss Vivian Harsh.

Photostatic copies of various rare items have been loaned by the famous Schomburg Collection of New York City, and S. C. Watkins, the only Negro book buyer in the country, has loaned several items, including precious copies of the old Liberator, abolitionist periodical.

The Literature Booth for the exposition was designed by Erik Lindgren, Swedish-born director of Illinois World Fair Exhibits at San Francisco and New York, and enlarged jackets of noted Negro books will be featured in it.

One of the features of the exhibit will be a complete display of the Langston Hughes autobiography, "The Big Sea," which will include the first rough draft of the manuscript, the finished copy, galley and page proofs and jacket design.

Prominent Negro authors will appear at the exhibit daily to autograph copies of their works.

The Advisory Committee for the exhibit includes Mr. Cayton, author of "Black Workers and the New Unions," and "Negro Housing in Chicago;" Arna Bontemps, director of research for the exposition and author of "Drums at Dusk," "Black Thunder," "God Send Sunday," and other novels, and E. Franklin Frazier, winner of the Annison Award and author of "The Negro Family in America."

DIXIE PRESS RAVES OVER YOUNG POET

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 20—Few people paid much attention to the poems of William McKinley Oglesby when the first 500 copies of *Meditations* came from the Johnson C. Smith university press at Charlotte, North Carolina six months ago. Young Oglesby went back to press with some revisions and additions to his "poems with a soul." The second edition of 1,000 copies met with more success than the first. The third edition of 5,000 copies has just been released.

To date Oglesby's Meditations have attracted wide attention in southern daily papers. Reviews of this book have appeared in the South's leading newspapers and magazines.

Books Published Today

FATHER WAS AN EDITOR, by Joshua K. Bolles. (Norton, $2.50.) The story of a rural editor in a Connecticut of an earlier day.

FOLKWAYS, by William Graham Sumner. (Ginn, Boston, $4.) A centennial edition of the study of the sociological importance of "usages, manners, customs and mores."

FROM ENGLAND TO AMERICA, H. N. Brailsford. (Whittlesey House, $1.50.) A message from the London correspondent of The New Republic suggesting the course America should follow.

PRINCIPLES OF ANIMAL BIOLOGY, by Lancelot Hogben. (Norton, $3.75.) Evolutionary principles intended for the reader with no previous knowledge of the subject.

STATE OF THE MASSES, by Emil Lederer. (Norton, $2.50.) "The threat of the classless society."

THE CANDY KILLINGS, by Gail Stockwell. (Greystone, $2.) mystery novel.

WITCHCRAFT: ITS POWER IN THE WORLD TODAY, by William Seabrook. (Harcourt, Brace, $3)

Reviewed today.

The Negro In Virginia

Compiled by Workers of the Writers Program of the Works Progress Administration in the State of Virginia.

By ETHEL R. HARRIS

RICHMOND, Va.—(ANP)—The book, enriched in fact about life shared by Negroes in Virginia since the African captives landed in the state, attempts to review in paths of endeavor which Negroes, despite their slave heritage, have pursued.

The status of the Negro in this state has been somewhat fluid at times as witnessed by the following facts: (1) Life servitude superseded indentureship because of the Negro's adaptability to work and the gradual lifting of restraint from the laws effecting them thus making life so severe; (2) Negroes were needed after Washington's dreadful winter at Valley Forge and free Negroes were therefore received into the militia; (3) When the skill which Negroes possessed was discovered they were made to help with homeweaving so that the upper classes could be relieved of manual duty; (4) Naturally they did the work with tobacco, the primary economy of life in Virginia.

In the earliest days the type of "slave row" in which Negroes lived reflected the status of the owner. Some slept on miserable beds; some, particularly children, on the floor. The spinning and other toils were done there. The owners were always concerned about the health and the health complaints because of the dependence of the owners upon the slaves for work, but of few, if any social factors.

The slaves talked, therefore, of freedom and "free land" and attempted underground railroad. Nat Turner and John Brown were important after emancipation. Some suffered from exposure, hunger and dysentery. Old slaves were "worked out" because of the rigors of war. Slavery was their culture, and they could not overcome the inhibitions created therefor.

Because the full measure of citizenship was not granted after the war, the Negro in Virginia has suffered terribly despite the promising political outlook in Reconstruction. Churches and schools arose which have continued as the framework of existence. Before very long there were expressions of art, literature, movements such as the YMCA, and NAACP, dancing and music which grew out of spirituals in the fields when work was heavy.

And there was a fair amount of capital through the secret orders insurance companies, banks, garage and service stations, specialized businesses as catering and drug stores. Labor has been prominent through the tobacco and shipyard industries and through the domestics. But whether in city or county the Negro in Virginia still looks northward as an escape.

DUSK OF DAWN. By W. E. B. DuBois. Harcourt, Brace and Company. $3.

Considerable beauty and sound decision are to be found in this autobiography of Mr. DuBois, the Negro educator and historian, but unfortunately it is so concerned with the general racial questic that it provides but a dim portrait of that extraordinary man himself. He tells crisply of his boyhood, of his studies at Harvard and the universities of Paris and Berlin, of his fourteen years as professor of economics and history at Atlanta University, of his thirty-one years as director of publications and research for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, of his editorial association with the *Crisis* since 1909. Now at the age of seventy-two he is more than ever confident that the Negroes' primary need in America is self-segregation for economic defense Soberly and explicitly he states and explains why "black folk are much superior to white" and "black folk are the salvation of mankind." His book is nc petition; it is a personal bill of rights.

THE BIOLOGY OF THE CELL SURFACE

By ERNEST EVERETT JUST

Professor of Biology, Howard University. Published by P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Inc., Philadelphia.

Reviewed by DR. ROBERT T. HANCE

Graduate Professor of Biology, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh.

All living things are made up of microscopic bits of vital matter. That statement today sounds trite because it is so generally known. One hundred years ago when Schleiden and Schwann, two German biologists, announced this as a fact it began a new era of discovery of the why and wherefore of plant and animal behavior. The past century has seen the birth and the development of all of our well-grounded knowledge of living activities. The units of vital structure, the understanding of the kinship of all plants and animals, the definite ways in which biological traits are passed from one generation to the next, how plants and animals function, how they grow, the nature and control of disease, food requirements, the mechanism that is responsible for the transmissions of hereditary traits, the behavior of special glands in the proper activity of the organism, all have become part of our useful information about ourselves during the past ten decades.

ORIGINAL CONCEPTIONS OF CELLS CHANGED

We have known that the body is made up of microscopic units of living structure since twenty years before the start of our Civil War, but that there were very small sub-divisions of some parts of plants was discovered nearly three hundred years ago. Robert Hooke, working with his home-made microscope, saw that a bottle cork, that had been made from the bark of a tree, was composed of a vast number of tiny empty boxes. These he called "cells." The name has stuck, although today, we know that what Hooke saw were dead cells and that when alive the "boxes" are filled with a jelly-like material that is now called protoplasm.

These living cells vary considerably in size but average about one five thousands of an inch in diameter. Even this mite of living matter has its own very definite organization. For many years the biologist has been studying the centrally-located nucleus and the material that surrounds it which is known as the cytoplasm. Most attention has been focused on the nucleus because the details of its makeup are easier to see. On top of this it became evident about forty years ago that the nucleus was the part of the cell chiefly concerned with the transmission of hereditary traits. More recently new methods of preparing the cell for study have enabled us to see details never before noticed in the cytoplasm and no little study is now being made of this part of the cell. Still a third cell structure has attracted the attention of a limited number of students. This is the surface of the cell which controls much, if not all, of the physiological exchanges of food and oxygen into, and of liquid and gaseous wastes out of, the body of the cell.

DR. JUST STUDIES SECRETS OF CELLS

Dr. Just has, for about thirty years, devoted himself to the attempt to understand the secrets held within this delicate barrier that separates the inside materials of the cell from that which lies outside of this tiny unit of life. His book is the summation of his findings during these years and of his interpretation of the results. Like most biologists who know their trade, Dr. Just does not hesitate to see the broad generalities that may touch the very basis of life and of human behavior and that rise out of the details of his intensive studies.

Just begins his book with a discussion of the nature of biological experimentation. He attempts to show the distinction and the difficulties of analyzing living activities as compared with physical and chemical problems. There is no question in my own mind that subtle differences exist and are but rarely fully appreciated by the workers in the fields of chemistry and physics. As Dr. Just points out, "The main purpose of an experiment in biology should be the explanation of the naturally occurring phenomena." This sounds like a simple program but it must be remembered that an unbelievably small variation from the normal conditions under which a living cell exists results in its death. Therein lies no little of the difficulty in observing, and in being certain that we observe, living cells that are living naturally. If they are not living normally we are not justified in drawing conclusions as to the possible activity of this cell. A wrong conclusion is worthless in advancing us toward our goal that envisions the successful control of biological function.

HAS WRITTEN TO APPEAL TO LAYMAN

Just has written his book with the hope that its contents will be intelligible to the well-read laymen. In this he will be disappointed. But he should find some comfort in his disappointment in the realization that his studies lie in a border line between the living and the non-living which consequently calls for a knowledge on the part of the reader involving a fine discrimination of word meanings not always possessed even by the professional. To add to his difficulties of presentation is the somewhat controversial nature of his findings or of his interpretation of these findings. The reviewer can therefore not properly review the book since the subject matter has much in it that has no common understandable counterpart in the experience of people not drilled in biological lore. Some of the questions that the studies have faced and the answers to them worked out by the student have some points of very general interest and these will be referred to. Admittedly the references will be too inadequate to do justice to the writer's labors but may be sufficient to afford a glimpse of what a biologist may be doing besides chasing bugs...the popular notion of what he usually does with his time.

Dr. Just believes that "in ectoplasmic (the outer layer of the cell) behavior we witness the expression of activities that set apart the living thing from the non-living, that mark how life maintains itself ever in harmonious tempo with the ceaseless changes in its surroundings. The life process of the cell is the sum and interaction of its manifold activities." Water is all important in the animate as well as the inanimate world and its exclusion from or entrance into the cell is controlled by subtle changes in the surface layer of the cell. Fertilization, the entrance of the sperm into the egg, is associated with varied surface changes. Growth is also accompanied by changes in the outer layers of the cells. "Development embraces a series of surface-changes which vary as the surface-area increases with the march of development."

Regarding the division of cells, "Cells do not extend indefinitely into space. They possess surfaces. Cell-division means that one cell becomes two by the rise of a new partition. Does this arise within the cytoplasm or does it come about through the extension of the ectoplasm inward? * * * We must seek the cause of cell-division in ectoplasmic activity." Of the many problems surrounding the growth and gradual differentiation of the multiplying cells into specialized group of tissues and organs, Dr. Just cites evidence that changes in the cell's outer layer are the direct and only visible manifestations of what takes place. He also offers interesting suggestions concerning the possible relation of the cell surface to the evolution of living organisms.

"Nature is both continuous and corpuscular. In the former sense, we pass from lower to higher revelations of organization almost insensibly and with scarcely a break. Every form of matter follows upon another. The universe, however much we fragment it, abstract it, ever retains its unity. The egg cell also is a universe."

"We feel the beauty of Nature because we are part of Nature and because we know that however much in our separate domains we abstract from the unity of Nature, this unity remains. Although we may deal with particulars, we return finally to the whole pattern we see out of these. So in our study of the animal egg: though we resolve it into constituent parts the better to understand it, we hold it as an integrated thing, as a unified system; in it life resides and in its moving surface life manifests itself."

Thus ends a long story concerning the very small outer layer of what already is a very tiny unit of living matter—the cell. Years of painstaking work have made the substance of this book possible. It will stimulate thought and interest in this part of life's smallest unit. It may help to solve some of the many problems connected with cellular biology. Errors may be discovered in the observations or in the deductions. But of this we may rest assured. Should such faults appear in time, the author of "The Biology of the Cell Surface" has given abundant evidence of his adherence to the code of science. Corrections will follow new findings. Science is not concerned too much with opinions; it must have the truth.

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"Although the first known Negro Baptist was a member of the Rhode Island Church, there were Negro Baptist churches in the South for more than a quarter of a century before they began to be constituted in the North and about a half century before the first church of its kind was planted in the West," the Inventory of Negro Baptist Churches in Virginia continues.

When the first African Baptist Church was organized in Boston in 1805, it was not only the first Negro Baptist church in the North, but was also the only independent Negro church in that area with the exception of the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Philadelphia which had a Negro rector.

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Mainly, the Inventory records the individual history of eight Baptist Conventions in the Old Dominion State and tells a brief story of each Richmond church affiliated with its respective Convention. The Inventory also recounts the eminent career of Lott Carey, one of the co-founders of this Society, and summarizes the

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The first Baptist Church of Manchester is the only Negro Baptist Church that was organized before 1865 within the present bounds of the City of Richmond.

The Inventory also recounts the founding of the Richmond African Baptist Missionary Society on April 28, 1815, and summarizes the eminent career of Lott Carey, one of the co-founders of this Society.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY- 1940

Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser
October 27, 1940

Harlem, Mecca For The Negro Race; A Book Written Without Inhibitions

HARLEM, NEGRO METROPOLIS, by Claude McKay, E. P. Dutton and Company, New York, 202 pages —$2.50.

Harlem has grown like a mushroom during the last two decades since the first Negro invasion of the district took place. It has been the object of curiosity on the part of both white and black alike. It is like nothing else in the world because it is a voluntary and expanding ghetto which has all the superficial but none of the fundamental characteristics of a ghetto.

HARLEM, NEGRO METROPOLIS, by Claude McKay is a sort of semi- tal evaluation of the Harlem exists today explained in terms of its origins, its trends, and its probable future.

Harlem presents the picture of a metropolis in miniature, cramped miniature which forces a high density of population into the outward appearance of opulence despite its fundamental poverty. High-toned apartments in Harlem are tenanted by several families, yet each family managed to share in the reflection of opulence that a certain apartment address seems to give.

Harlem inhabitants are of all types, and because it is a metropolis in cramped miniature these types are almost hopelessly intermingled, charlatan with artist, respectability with viciousness, integrity with worthlessness. But McKay attempts to straighten out the confusion and emerges with an eminently sane study of that peculiar portion of the larger peculiarity, New York itself.

McKay is obviously not a partisan in his study of the Negro metropolis. He neither apologizes for its meanness nor becomes arrogant when recounting its virtues. He stays in the middle of the road, and thus his work is of great value.

Readers in the South, both white and black, will find much to interest them in this study of Harlem. In it are many things which will blast the average Southern white man's folklore about Negro behavior, and much which will fill out the actually scanty knowledge the Southern white man has of the Negro's thoughts and aspirations. In it are many things that will help to rid Harlem of its near fantastic halo among Negroes who do not know it first hand. Harlem is not as many unacquainted Negroes suppose, a Mecca where all troubles end but rather a portion of the earth surface where the blank man's trouble only begin.—R. F. H., Jr.

Remnants of African Culture Presented In 'Drums and Shadows', New WPA Publication

NOV 2 1940

ATLANTA, Ga.—Announcement of the November publication of "Drums and Shadows", a series of field studies on the Georgia costal Negro, is arousing keen interest throughout the country, particularly among students of ethnology This book was written by the Savannah Unit of the Georgia Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration. Mary Granger supervised the work leading to this production which is to be published by the University of Georgia Press.

"Drums and Shadows" is the fourth significant Federal Writers' Project book on the Negro to be issued within three months. Mainly, it is a first-hand study of customs, rituals and beliefs which have been handed down from father to son, generation after generation, among Negro slaves and descendants of slaves in the tidewater lowlands and coastal islands of Georgia. The recording of conjure practices, religious survivals, and tales of slaves from Africa will be of interest to the lay reader. African parallels by scholars, missionaries and travelers who have lived among the tribes of West Africa are contained an an appendix covering a period from about 1700 to the present time. The book gives a faithful transcription of the speech of the 138 Negroes interviewed. This is one of the most interesting features of the volume. The decided change in recent years from the marked Geeche dialect to a more modern diction is clearly shown.

Striking Photographs

Photographs by Muriel and Malcolm Bell, Jr., of Savannah, present some striking studies of the Negroes living in the tidewater regions and on islands off the Georgia coast. The oldest person interviewed Tony Delegal, 110 years of age, is pictured in "Drums and Shadows" with work-gnarled hands. A fisherman of Pin Point, a drum-maker of Savannah, and an ox-cart at Sapelo are among the other subjects making up the illustrations in the WPA book.

The foreward of "Drums and Shadows" is by Guy B. Johnson, sociologist and research associate at the University of North Carolina. Dr. Johnson, in commenting on the value of the book to students of anthropology and especially those interested in the Negroes, says that it contains "some of the best first-hand material on Negro life that has ever been collected. The subject matter should be of considerable interest not only to the average reader but to sociologists and anthropologists who are studying the acculturation of the Negro in America."

Outstanding among others who have favorably commented on the forthcoming production of the Georgia Writers' Project of the WPA is Melville J. Herskovits, anthropologist of the Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University, who states, "Drums and Shadows" presents interesting sidelights on the lives of Negroes living in Georgia Sea Islands and on the Georgia coast. It is interestingly written and should be read by all those who are concerned with rounding out a full picture of life in the South today. Because of its readibility, it should attract the interest of the laymen. The remnants of African practice revealed in its pages should also make this book valuable to scientists."

"The Negro in Virginia," "The Negroes of Nebraska" and "The Cavalcade of the American Negro" are the titles of other WPA Writers' Project books issued since July of this year.

Hamitic Bible Tells Of Negro Contributions

NOV 7 1940

The A. J. Holman Co. of Philadelphia, publishers of the new Hamitic Bible, recently announced in these columns, has developed and is undertaking a far seeing noteworthy distribution method in the dissemination of the Hamitic Bible.

Ministers of various churches and denominations have been offered the opportunity of selling the Hamitic Bible at retail to their congregations and others interested. The Holman Company states that it has made the offer by letter to all ministers whose names and addresses were obtainable and that it would gladly offer the same opportunity to any minister who is interested.

What makes the offer noteworthy (and newsworthy) is the fact that any minister of church society caring to cooperate on the Holman plan is not only spreading the Word of God in a Bible designed for our race, telling its accomplishments in religion and civilization, and endorsed in the highest terms by the leading divines of all of our denominations, but also making available from profits due to sales a sum which may be used to help pay salaries, make church repairs, buy supplies, add to missionary and relief funds, or be put to many other uses.

The Holman Company states that the Bible has been most favorably received and that many shipments have been made.

New Wright Book Termed As Powerful

NOV 7 1940

By MABEL KOUNTZE

BOSTON, (ANP)—"How 'Bigger Was Born," an attractive 39-page yellow-covered booklet by Richard Wright seems patterned somewhat on the style of the Reader's Digest. But man, it's dynamite!

It came off the press last week from Harper Brothers, New York.

Well, it is not a nice book in the gentle sense because Mr. Wright and most of his readers will find nothing "nice" about the factual existence of the author's earnest exposure of the American double standards—"For Colored" and "For Whites."

If anyone has any pevious conceptions that author Wright is a literary "Uncle Tom" selling his race down the river, this new booklet "How 'Bigger' Was Born" is going to change that view entirely. Because the young Mississippi author gives a wordful warning symbolic of the fire and courage of a Hugo, a Dickens, a black Voltaire. He writes:

"I am not saying that I heard any talk of revolution in the South when I was a kid there. But I did hear the lispings, the whispers, the mutters which some day, under one stimulus or another, will surely grow into open revolt unless the conditions which produce Bigger Thomases are changed."

NEW YORK TIMES
NEW YORK, N.Y.
OCT. 27, 1940

LOWING THROUGH: The Story of the Negro in Agriculture. By Edwin Ware Hullinger. 4to. New York: William Morrow & Co. $1.50.

An account of what has been done to improve the position of the Negro farmer. Profusely illustrated from photographs.

NEW YORK TIMES
NEW YORK, N.Y.
OCT. 27, 1940

"CARVER OF TUSKEGEE." *Norman Beasley. (Longmans, Green.) November.*

"CRUSADER IN CRINOLINE: THE LIFE OF HARRIET BEECH-

Forerunner and Ambassador

OCT 28 1940

The Big Sea: An Autobiography, by Langston Hughes. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 335 pages. $3.

THE DOUBLE ROLE that Langston Hughes has played in the rise of a realistic literature among the Negro people resembles in one phase the role that Theodore Dreiser played in freeing American literary expression from the restrictions of Puritanism. Not that Negro literature was ever Puritanical, but it was timid and vaguely lyrical and folkish. Hughes's early poems, "The Weary Blues" and "Fine Clothes to the Jew," full of irony and urban imagery, were greeted by a large section of the Negro reading public with suspicion and shock when they first appeared in the middle twenties. Since then the realistic position assumed by Hughes has become the dominant outlook of all those Negro writers who have something to say.

The New Republic

The other phase of Hughes's role has been, for the lack of a better term, that of a cultural ambassador. Performing his task quietly and almost casually, he has represented the Negroes' case, in his poems, plays, short stories and novels, at the court of world opinion. On the other hand he has brought the experiences of other nations within the orbit of the Negro writer by his translations from the French, Russian and Spanish.

How Hughes became this forerunner and ambassador can best be understood in the cameo sequences of his own life that he gives us in his sixth and latest book, "The Big Sea." Out of his experiences as a seaman, cook, laundry worker, farm helper, bus boy, doorman, unemployed worker, have come his writings dealing with black gals who wore red stockings and black men who sang the blues all night and slept like rocks all day.

Unlike the sons and daughters of Negro "society," Hughes was not ashamed of those of his race who had to scuffle for their bread. The jerky transitions of his own life did not admit of his remaining in one place long enough to become a slave of prevailing Negro middle-class prejudices. So beneficial does this ceaseless movement seem to Hughes that he has made it one of his life principles: six months in one place, he says, is long enough to make one's life complicated. The result has been a range of artistic interest and expression possessed by no other Negro writer of his time.

Born in Joplin, Missouri, in 1902, Hughes lived in half a dozen Midwestern towns until he entered high school in Cleveland, Ohio, where he began to write poetry. His father, succumbing to that fit of disgust which overtakes so many self-willed Negroes in the face of American restrictions, went off to Mexico to make money and proceeded to treat the Mexicans just as the whites in America had treated him. The father yearned to educate Hughes and establish him in business. His favorite phrase was "hurry up," and it irritated Hughes so much that he fled his father's home.

Later he entered Columbia University, only to find it dull. He got a job on a merchant ship, threw his books into the sea and sailed for Africa. But for all his work, he arrived home with only a monkey and a few dollars, much to his mother's bewilderment. Again he sailed, this time for Rotterdam, where he left the ship and made his way to Paris. After an interval of hunger he found a job as a doorman, then as second cook in a night club, which closed later because of bad business. He went to Italy to visit friends and had his passport stolen. Jobless in an alien land, he became a beachcomber until he found a ship on which he could work his way back to New York.

OCT 28 1940

The poems he had written off and on had attracted the attention of some of his relatives in Washington and, at their invitation, he went to live with them. What Hughes has to say about Negro "society" in Washington, relatives and hunger are bitter poems in themselves. While living in Washington, he won his first poetry prize; shortly afterwards Carl Van Vechten submitted a batch of his poems to a publisher.

The New Republic

The rest of "The Big Sea" is literary history, most of it dealing with the Negro renaissance, that astonishing period of prolific productivity among Negro artists that coincided with America's "golden age" of prosperity. Hughes writes of it with humor, urbanity and objectivity; one has the feeling that never for a moment was his sense of solidarity with those who had known hunger shaken by it. Even when a Park Avenue patron was having him driven about the streets of New York in her town car, he "felt bad because he could not share his new-found comfort with his mother and relatives." When the bubble burst in 1929, Hughes returned to the mood that seems to fit him best. He wrote of the opening of the Waldorf-Astoria:

> Now, won't that be charming when the last flophouse has turned you down this winter?

Hughes is tough; he bends but he never breaks, and he has carried on a manly tradition in literary expression when many of his fellow writers have gone to sleep at their posts.

RICHARD WRIGHT

W. E. B. DuBOIS'S autobiography

The New Republic.

DUSK OF DAWN

OCT 28 1940

The autobiography of the great Negro American educator and writer. "There is nothing quite like it in the literature of the subject; although it has more differences than similarities, its nearest counterpart in American letters is 'The Education of Henry Adams'."—*N. Y. Herald Tribune.* $3.00

Elizabeth City, N. C., Advance
November 6, 1940

Book Tells Story Of the Negro Vote

How did the legislature come to meddle in purely local matters? Why does the General Assembly name justices of the peace and boards of educations, switch the ballance of control of other local governing boards and override city councils and county commissioners?

William Alexander Mabry tells how the practice started in his recent book, The Negro in North Carolina Politics, published by the Duke University Press for $1.

When the General Assembly was elected in 1873, the Democrats wrested control of both House and Senate from the Republicans. But in '22 "Black Counties" the Republicans still retained control of local government.

Under those circumstances the Assembly took over the appointment of the principal county officers. It first passed a county government law which provided that the legislature should name the justices of the peace. The justices of the peace, in turn, were to elect from three to five persons from their respective counties to act as a board of county commissioners.

The State Bar Association is even now still trying to reform the jaypee system from the hangover produced by this expedient.

But to get back to this exceedingly informing book. Many think the Negro franchise came with the end of the War Between the States. Actually, Mabry points out, Negroes voted in 1703 during colonial days.

In the early days of the Republic 50 free Negroes cast ballots in Chowan County and 75 voted in Pasquotank, according to a report in 1835.

Complaints against the Negro vote then were that the Negroes were "amenable to bribery" and that "with a little money or liquor they could be bought."

These are only random excerpts from this exceedingly readable and informing volume that traces the Negro in politics through Reconstruction and up to the present day.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Discrimination

A COLORED WOMAN IN A WHITE WORLD, *by Mary Church Terrell. Ransdell, Inc., Washington, D. C. $2.50.*

DEC 3 1940

THIS book should be required reading for all those who still stubbornly maintain that "there is no special Negro question in the United States; there is only a class question; the problems of the Negro people are simply the problems of all who work."

Take the case of Mrs. Terrell. Her autobiography is 427 pages of evidence of the *national* oppression of the American Negro people. For Mrs. Terrell has enjoyed a degree of financial ease and security which very few white people ever attain. There was no difficulty about a college education; nor about post-graduate study in Switzerland, Germany, France, and Italy; nor about frequent trips to England and the continent in later years. Mrs. Terrell has lived a life singularly removed from the masses of working people, black and white; her story is filled with references to her friends among senators and congressmen, lords and ladies, princes, countesses, kings.

New Masses

And yet—this well-to-do, well-educated, and somewhat aristocratic woman has been dragged from her seat in trains, buses, street cars; has been insulted and manhandled by conductors; has been barred from theaters, concerts, restaurants, hotels. She has been "ghettoed" in Washington, denied the chance to buy a desirable home because it was in a "white" neighborhood. She has been unable to get employment as a clerical worker in department stores, offices, government bureaus—despite her college degree, her wide experience, her knowledge of many languages—simply because she is a Negro. And when she happened to get a job because of her light complexion she was dismissed as soon as the "error" was discovered.

New York, N.Y.

She has suffered also for discrimination visited upon family and friends. One close friend was lynched because he was "too successful." Her husband, a judge of the municipal court in Washington, was subjected every four years to ferocious attacks by those who wanted to remove a colored official. (One newspaper cartooned him as an ape.) A young girl, a friend of the family, was shut out from half a dozen *Northern* academies, and the registrars were astonishingly frank about the reason. Jim Crowism, carried by fellow Americans, followed her even to France and Germany. Her book is replete with such stories, which she characterizes vividly as "cases of assault and battery committed upon the feelings and self-respect of colored people."

Mrs. Terrell's life has been full and active. She was a founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; she was a prominent figure in the woman suffrage movement; she was the first president of the National Association of Colored Women; she was a member of the Board of Education of Washington, D. C. Therefore, her occasional compromises with Jim Crowism—which she does not even seem to recognize as compromises—are the more surprising. To mention only two examples out of many: "If colored people could find houses," she writes, "on a street restricted to themselves, which were as well built as those in white districts, they would make no effort to thrust themselves upon their fair-skinned brothers and sisters." Why this acceptance of segregation? And again, in protesting the substitution of white for Negro troops in Europe after the World War, she wrote to Premier Poincare: ". . . if for good and sufficient reasons it was deemed wise to draw the line between white and black soldiers, the interest of . . . brave, black soldiers would have been better conserved if that fact had not been broadcast throughout the world." Thus, she advocated, at least in this case, that discrimination, if it must be at all, would be better accomplished quietly instead of in the open.

DEC 3 1940

The author's description of systematic, unashamed Jim Crowism in the national capital, including government buildings and departments, is an important part of the book, revealing as it does the complicity of federal administrations in oppression of the Negro.

ELIZABETH LAWSON.

R. WRIGHT EXPLAINS

In "How 'Bigger' was Born," (Harpers, New York 25c) Richard Wright explains the writing of "Native Son," the recent best seller. Mr. Wright means well and does a certain kind of writing well, but the feeling will not down that he is very confused and bewildered. "Native Son" seemed to me to defeat the author's purpose, and this tale of how it was written confirms the first impression.

DEC 28 1940

MISS JANE E. HUNTER WRITES SECRETARY BOYD

Cleveland Independent

Nashville Tenn.

DEC 27 1940

Author of "A Nickel and A Prayer," Builder of The Phyllis Wheatley Association in Cleveland Promises Cooperation

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 13—Dr. Henry Allen Boyd, 523 2nd Ave. N., Nashville, Tenn., Dear Henry Allen Boyd:—Your good letter reached me this morning on my birthday and it certainly was an inspiration to feel that you want to help so humble a person as myself.

One of the greatest compensations that has come to me is to be counted among your personal friends and because I have your friendship, I shall want to share in a larger way the things you want to do among the under-privileged here in Cleveland If God be my helper I shall plan to be present on Monday, January 13th, one month from the day on which Jane E. Hunter was born.

I am sending you enclosed two of the editorials that have been written on my book and particularly am I grateful for the one published by the Charleston News and Courier and written by John Bennett. I hope that you can use them whenever you have an opportunity and wheverer your authority extends.

Looking forward to seeing you in January and with kindest regards to Mrs. Boyd and your daughter, I am,

Very sincerely yours,
Jane E. Hunter,
Executive Secretary.

THE WORLD This Week

DEC 28 1940

By SAMUEL I. BROOKS

Pittsburgh Courier

Not since Booker T. Washington wrote "Up From Slavery" has any colored American written a more engaging, informative, stimulating and inspiring autobiography than Mary Church Terrell's "A Colored Woman in a White World." Here is the whole era of our freedom seen through the eyes of one of America's most brilliant daughters. Would that more of us had her spirit. She deserves highest honors.

BOOK REVIEW

Synopsis and Criticism

The Negro and the Drama
By Frederick W. Bond, Ph.D.
Associated Publishers, Washington, D. C.

DEC 13 1940

The Negro has made definite and encouraging contributions to the cycle of Thespian activities, according to the fine thesis of Dr. Frederick W. Bond, Doctor of Philosophy from New York university, instructor at Stowe college, which thesis, in book form, we review here.

Within 213 pages are encouched so much material as to afford quite informative reading. Dr. Bond approaches his study from three main points: examination of dramatic literature and persusal of literature from other sources. There are 12 chapters.

Interesting is it that: "The idea that the American slave was intellectually and esthetically empty was discarded by the end of the nineteenth century."

Slaves expressed "habits, customs" and emotions through songs. Some expressed joy, others sorrow, some retribution, others contrition.

Dr. Bond lists the first Negro writers of any merit as Jupiter Hammon. Then came Phyllis Wheatley, whose poetry he evaluated on its theme was than on its lyricism. Another important figure was George Moses Horton "probably the most distinguished between Wheatley and Dunbar." Richard Allen, first A.M.E. bishop, is mentioned, "whose pastoral connections created in him a desire to write." Frederick Douglass stands out. Deliberative orators like Rainey, Langston, Ranier, Elliott and Bruce are mentioned. Booker Washington's most dramatic production was "Up From Slavery." As early developments were affected by slavery, later writings were influenced by social and economic forces.

Grew Dramatically

Despite restrictions the Negro artist grew in dramatic stature. Dr. Bond says: "Negro drama has taught the world to realize that the Negro possesses a distinct art which has not been surpassed." (Quotation from Johnson.) Minstrels, then, came on the scene. Perhaps it dates back to 1830. Either Gottlieb Grampner or Charles White are leaders. By 1840 minstrelsy was a distinct part of acting wth the appearance of Cole, Johnson and Johnson it became a force.

In 1760, interest in the Negro as dramatic material was stressed. America's first comic opera, "The Diappointment," feels Dr. Bond, was influenced by Negro dialect. Black Thespianism's advent on the stage dates back to 1795 to James Murdock's Reconsiliation." Drama was used for propaganda. In 1852 appeared "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Her "Dred," not so telling, was good.

Mention is made of Ira Aid ridge. Few actors could beat him.

Chapter III is devoted to greater and freer efforts. "Coon songs" appeared. Broadway took cognizance. Burlesque began. Blues came on the scene. Various All-Negro shows appeared. Composers appeared among them W. C. Handy.

"Toward Dramatic Music," Chapter 15, treats of the versatile and prolific genius of many. Among them are the Smart Sett, Black Patti's Troubadours, Then came Tutt, Sissle, Earl Dancer. Came Clarence Cameron White, Evanti, Jarboro, Todd Duncan, Rose McClendon, William Dawson, William Grant Still, Lawrence Still, Dorothy Maynor and Marian Anderson.

Whites Took Themes

Needless to say, mercenary and sometimes interested, whites, took the Negro themes. Edward Sheldon, Carl Van Vechten, O'Neill, George Jean Nathan and Paul Green wrote. Marc Conelly, produced Green Pastures. Mixed dramatic casts became organized.

The author's summary: "In the recent drama produced by the Negro, playwrights have made a step forward in portraying Negro life as it is. At the same time those authors have bodly resorted to propaganda in expositing the evils from which Negroes suffer."

BOOK REVIEW

Synopsis and Criticism

DEC 20 1940

IN A MINOR KEY, by Ira De A. Reid, American Youth Commission, Washington, D. C. $1.25.

"In a Minor Key" is one of the series of publications intended to give the story of Negro youth problems. The survey of Negro youth problems is one of the major problems undertaken by the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education. It is indeed significant that this series of special studies of Negro youth problems should come at this time.

President Rocsevelt before he left for his Caribbean cruise told press reporters that the problems of youth and old-age pensions were the most pressing problems facing the country. The President urged it was essential to deal with the youth problems if the nation's democratic system is to be preserved. He pointed out if youth is allowed to lose hope in the future, to be cut off from a sense of "belonging" it is certain to become an easy prey to destructive "isms": Subversive organizations of late have increased their proselyting efforts in many Negro communities.

The history of Germany and other countries with totalitarian idealogies proves that the youth were among those easier to convince to subversive ideologies. They were without jobs, they felt they had no stake in their country.

Ira De A. Reid, in writing "In a Minor Key," touches the most important problems which cut across the paths of Negro youth. The author notes that "the problem of Negro youth is not one of race alone, but a broadly human one. Negro youth and white youth are poor together, ignorant together. Negroes have been victimized because of their low plane of living and little economic independence.

They have appeared servile because they have been oppressed; they have been oppressed because they were poor. As we advance in culture and estate, new philosophies, new insights, and new understandings of the economic and social complexities of our living will appear. New programs will be devised to meet and implement these new philosophies. The need of preparation for this advance is the challenge to Negro youth and those interested in his welfare," concludes Mr. Reid.

The story and fact of "Life and Death," "No Place Like Home," "Literacy and Learning," "Living Off the Soil," "Racial Competition for Jobs," "The Negro Profession" and "Relief and Recovery" are presented in concise, brief but complete statements.

The study is one of lucid reading, interestingly written and arranged and illustrated with graphic pictorial statistics.

"DUSK OF DAWN", by W. E. DuBois, Harcourt, Brace and company, New York, $3.00.

This powerful and extraordinary book is an essay toward an autobiography of a race concept.

DuBois, the scholar and scientist, despite his far beyond average educational and cultural advantages has had to walk the path which million of other dark complexioned Americans have trod. The path of direct and implied racial inferiority.

Dr. DuBois after 70 years of uncompromising fighting has come to the philosophy of opportunism and the changes which come by slow social evolution out of his own experience and that of his race he had been brought to the bitter acceptance of the problem of race, as being far from solution in the near future. He proposes a Negro economy, within the major economy.

He suggests consumers' cooperation for Negroes. He says, "Today we work for others at wages pressed down to the limit of exchanging services, producing an increasing proportion of goods which we consume by a living wage and by work under civilized conditions."

The writer points out that the American Negro faces a paradoxical situation of combining into one object two difficult sets of facts; "his present racial segregation which despite anything he can do will persist for many decades; and his attempt by carefully planned and intelligent action to fit himself into the new economic organization which the world faces."

Dr. DuBois, with his superior brains, genius and independence of spirit, illustrates in his own life his concept of a race which is that in our present status in America; a Negro cannot escape an inferiority status, he must accept it. This brilliant author at times almost utters a note of utter helplessness and despair.

DEC 20 1940

It is a practical argument for a Negro economic nation within the American economic class structure, he points to our self-segregation in education, religion and the demand for a distinct Negro health movement. planning and intelligent control in these realms offers the economic ladder by which the American Negro, achieving new social institutions can move with the modern world into a new heaven and a new earth," claims Dr. DuBois. — Thomas A. Webster.

New York Times
DEC 8 1940
N.Y.

Sapphira and the slave girl

A NEW NOVEL BY

WILLA CATHER

THE CHIEF THEME of this novel is the subtle persecution of a beautiful mulatto slave girl by her jealous mistress. The period is 1856, and the setting is the beautiful Virginia countryside. The narrative is peopled with unusual characters; the mountain folk, grim disapproving "Republicans", and Sapphira's African slaves who are, and were doubtless meant to be, the most interesting figures in the book. . . . The theme is moving and dramatic; and it is treated with the sensitiveness and imagination of a master. Here again is the calm dignity of Willa Cather's beautiful style —matchless among that of writers of today —and a story that is intense and moving. It is indeed a proud privilege to round off my first quarter century with so memorable a novel.

$2.50

Alfred A. Knopf

Man, Apes & Hooton

There are still a few fundamentalists left who repudiate the doctrine that men and apes evolved from a common primate stock. Harvard's Earnest Albert Hooton thinks the shoe should be on the other foot. "Any respectable ape," he writes, "would repudiate the imputation of a common ancestry with man." Much publicized, highly controversial Anthropologist Hooton has a high regard for gorillas, chimpanzees, orangutans, etc.; an increasingly low regard for the social and biological status of man. Last week the dismal state of humanity lifted his talent for caustic castigation to new heights.

His new book, *Why Men Behave Like Apes and Vice Versa* (Princeton University Press; $3), grew out of several lectures on

Eric Schaal-Pix

EARNEST HOOTON
In Princeton no old ladies arose.

the organic basis of behavior which he delivered at Princeton last spring. The learned author, pleased by his Princeton audience, declared in his preface: "It did not dwindle perceptibly from lecture to lecture; it did not cough, shuffle or fidget, and it included no old ladies who arose and walked out noisily and indignantly."

Much has Hooton said on the evolutionary decay of modern man, on the biological factor in crime, but this is his fullest survey to date of the biology-&-behavior problem in general. He trades hard punches with social scientists, or at least with extreme behaviorists among them who seem to think that one human being would behave as well as another if their environments were equal. Hooton's contention: since feeble-mindedness can be inherited, why not feeble morality? A favorite phrase of his is "moral imbecile."

For evidence, he goes to the great apes, nearest kin to man. They show—and inherit—wide differences of personality. Gorillas like to thump their chests. Both

TIME. December 2. 1940

gorillas and chimpanzees do crude dances and rhythmic poundings, but orangs and gibbons do not. By people who have studied them closely, gibbons are usually described as shy, gentle, amiable, affectionate. Gorillas are reserved, deliberate, discreet. Chimpanzees are lively, responsive, emotionally unstable. These temperamental differences are obviously not due to variations in the natural habitat, for animals born in captivity manifest them. Moreover, at this stage, differences between individual members of the same species are noticeable.

All this may seem elementary, but when Hooton steps over the threshold to humanity he finds that tender-minded idealists suddenly throw the biological basis of behavior right out the window. They cannot deny that bodily differences are inherited, so they simply put body and mind in separate compartments. "This," says Hooton, "is the human declaration of independence. It has produced a social schizophrenia which is making a madhouse of civilization."

Hooton thinks it significant that certain physically very distinct races—*e.g.*, the Eskimos, the Bushmen of Africa, the Australian aborigines—have developed very distinct cultures. The Negritos, a pygmy branch of the Negro race, occupy scattered areas in Africa, New Guinea, Indo-Malaya, the Philippines. Wherever they are, their culture is always more primitive than that of full-sized Negroes. It is now known that two famed fossil oldtimers, the Peking man and the Java "ape-man," were much alike physically. The one in China, the other in Java made the same sort of crude choppers and scrapers. Hooton's own researches on criminals disclose, he claims, a biological factor—for example, that murderers, when examined and tabulated in large groups, are constitutionally and racially different from sex offenders and thieves (TIME, Jan. 30, 1939) and that criminals as a class are physically inferior to the general population.

Hooton admits the importance of environment, but he wants the environmentalists to stop ignoring hereditary differentiation. He wants man to be studied as a total organism, with converging attacks from anthropological, medical, sociological and psychological angles. It will cost money, require a long time and a realistic approach. But he is convinced it must be done if man is not to sink into an evolutionary quagmire from which he will not escape.

A COLORED WOMAN IN A WHITE WORLD. By Mary Church Terrell. 8vo. Washington, D. C.: Ransdell, National Press Building. $3.

Reminiscences of one of the first colored women to be graduated from college.

JANE HUNTER'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Hailed as Outstanding Biography in The Field of Social Work

Declaring Jane Hunter's autobiography, "A Nickel and Prayer," to be an extraordinary life story comparable to Booker T. Washington's "Up from Slavery", John Bennett, noted journalist and author, gives full-some praise to this book in a review published in the past week's Sunday edition of the Charleston News and Courier, leading daily of South Carolina.

This book, says Mr. Bennett, in his review, is one of the most remarkable books produced by an American Negro. It tells the story of a South Carolinian Negro girl, who pledged her life to wiping out some of the hazards which meet a young colored woman seeking decent employment and an honest living in a strange city.

"This woman", says Mr. Bennett, "battling upward against prejudice, discrimination, skepticism, district and the malignant teachery of corrupt politics, founded a home for the friendless Negro girl, who came to the large cities of the North during the migration years between 1910 and 1920. The Phillis Wheatley Association of Cleveland, the institution she founded, may be regarded as a notable example of the most successful interracial cooperation in the field of social service. It is indeed revealed as the refuge for the working girl."

"Her book tells of plodding through", comments Mr. Bennett, "difficult year after difficult year, resolutely, patiently, courageously, often against stubborn and sometimes sinister opposition, to build an agency for the training and guidance of working girls. Cultivating a reasonable understanding between the white and dark races, and to demonstrate the truth that the only efficient method of dealing with a submerged minority is not paternalistic but democratic, by helping the underprivileged individual to help himself."

The Phillis Wheatley Associaton, this book reveals, is the embodiment of the philosophy maintained at Tuskegee by Booker T. Washington; and, like Washington, the author concludes, against all crackpot theories that "The Negro must develop his own abilities, and make his contribution to the world, as a Negro."

Other newspapers and prominent persons throughout the country, including The Cleveland Plain Dealer and The Cleveland Press, leading morning and afternoon dailies of her own city, have joined in the favorable response which Miss Hunter's book has received throughout the country.

CONCERNING "BIGGER THOMAS"

By Josephine T. Washington

Author Tells Secret of Character

(Continued from last issue)

Richard Wright tells how he became aware of Bigger as "a meaningful and prophetic symbol:" "I made the discovery that Bigger Thomas was not black all the time; he was white too, and there were millions of him everywhere."

Well may the world heed the statement that "these personalities; tense, afraid, nervous, hysterical and restless, are mainly consequent upon men and women living in a world ridden with national and class strife, a world in which God no longer existed as a duty focal point in men's lives."

Bigger Thomas Analyzed

The analysis of Bigger Thomas in America and in Nazi Germany and in Old Russia showed civilizations which told Mr. Wright that certain modern experiences were creating types of personalities whose existence ignored racial and national lines of demarcation.

Just as no particular race nor nation, nor sect is responsible for the origin and growth of the Bigger Thomases so the agences that should cooperate for the obliteration of the strain cannot be definitely and explicitly stated.

We do know, however, that though great the mass the units composing it, whether men or molecules, each has its own place and power. Individuals count, even when the task seems herculean. If every man and woman, singly or in cooperation with others, attacked, as he is able, the problems of the Bigger Thomases among us, there could be no failure.

The Heart of the Problem Laid Bare

Worthy of attention are these remarks beween Bigger and his lawyer-friend.

"Bigger, are there many Negro boys like you?" asked Max, and Bigger replied, "I reckon so. All of them I know ain't got nothing and ain't going nowhere".

"Why didn't you go to some of the leaders of your race and tell them how you and other boys felt?"

"Aw, hell! Mr. Max. They wouldn't listen to me. They rich, even though the white folks treat them almost like white people, when it comes to guys like me. They say guys like me make it hard for them to get along with white folk."

Condemned to Death

Wretched, criminal, hated, condemned to death before he was permitted to live, this boy yet learned to respond to kindness. He felt sorry for the lawyer, who against all odds and at the risk of his own safety, was trying to help him:

"Mr. Max, if I was you I wouldn't worry. If all folk was like you, then may be I wouldn't be here. But you can't help that now. They going to hate you for trying to help me. I'm gone! They got me!"

To which class do we choose to belong—that of Max, or of the howling multitude?

BIBLIOGRAPHY - 1940

Athens, Ga., Banner Herald
November 14, 1940

"THE NEGRO IN AMERICAN AGRICULTURE"

The Department of Agriculture has recently issued a bulletin entitled, "The Negro in American Agriculture", which contains much valuable information as relates to the advancement and progress made by the negro in the development of agricultural conditions in the southern states. The bulletin gives a clear insight into the accomplishments of the negro in becoming sharecroppers and owners of lands and operators of their own farms.

A few paragraphs from the bulletin is of more than ordinary interest in that it clarifies and gives facts as to the progress the negro has made during recent years. The following information will be of interest:

"Agriculture means more to more American negroes than does any other industry or occupation..

"More negroes are earning their living from the land today than in any other way.

"Farming is a way of life for half of all negroes in the United States.

"More than 75 percent of the American negroes live in the South. Ninety-five per cent of the negro farm operators live in the South. Nearly half of all the southern sharecroppers are negroes.

"The welfare of most negroes in the South rises and falls with the welfare of southern agriculture.

"The status of the negro farmer is one of the major factors in the southern agricultural situation. It is of vital interest, not only to the South but to the entire nation."

The following statistics taken from the bulletin furnishes a surprising but favorable state of affairs among the negroes of the southern states:

Jefferson, Ga., Herald
November 28, 1940

"The Negro In American Agriculture"

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"DID YOU KNOW?"

"—that 4,500,000 negroes are living on farms in 13 Southern States?

"—That negro farmers constitute 12.6 percent of all American farm operators?

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"—That 987 loans were made to negro farm tenants in the first two years the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act was in operation?

"—That 427 negro families were farming on 10 rental co-operatives in January 1940?

"—That more than 1,800 negro families are living today on farm homestead projects?

"—That more than 500 negro county agents are serving farmers in the field?

"—That a 1939 survey of 50,000 negro farm families shows their average net worth has increased from $451 to $752 since the inauguration of the rehabilitation program?"

Jane Hunter's Autobiography Hailed As "Most Outstanding"

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

"A Nickel and a Prayer" Gets Big Sendoff as Top Biography in the Field of Social Work.

DEC 7 1940

Declaring Jane Hunter's autobiography, "A Nickel and a Prayer," to be an extraordinary life story, comparable to Booker T. Washington's "Up From Slavery," John Bennett, noted journalist and author, gives fullsome praise to this book in a review published in the past week's Sunday edition of the Charleston News and Courier, leading daily of South Carolina.

This book, says Mr. Bennett, in his review, is one of the most remarkable books produced by an American Negro. It tells the story of a South Carolina Negro girl, who pledged her life to wiping out some of the hazards which meet a young colored woman seeking decent employment and an honest living in a strange city.

"This woman," says Mr. Bennett, "battling upward against prejudice, discrimination, scepticism, distrust and malignant treachery of corrupt politics, founded a home for the friendless Negro girl, who came to the large cities of the North during the migration years between 1910 and 1920. The Phillis Wheatley association of Cleveland, the institution she founded, may be regarded as a notable example of the most successful interracial cooperation in the field of social service. It is indeed revealed as the refuge for the working girl."

"Her book tells of plodding through," comments Mr. Bennett, "difficult year after difficult year, resolutely, patiently, courageously, often against stubborn and sometimes sinister opposition, to building an agency for the training and guidance of working girls. Cultivating a reasonable understanding between the white and dark races, and to demonstrate the truth that only efficient method of dealing with a submerged minority is not paternalistic but democratic, by helping the underprivileged individual to help himself."

The Phillis Wheatley association, this book reveals, is the embodiment of the philosophy maintained at Tuskegee by Booker T. Washington, and, like Washington, the author concludes against all crackpot theories, that "The Negro must develop his own abilities, and make his contribution to the world, as a Negro."

S. C. Negro Woman's Life Is Welfare Drama

DEC 22 1940

A NICKEL AND A PRAYER, by Jane S. Hunter; pp 198; illus.; Cleveland, Ohio; Elli Kani Publishing company. $2.50.

This is not so much a book review as comment upon a strange story.

The book itself is beyond ordinary, and deserves more than ordinary consideration. It is the story of a South Carolina Negro girl, who pledged her life to wipe out some of the hazards which meet a young colored woman seeking in a strange city for decent employment and an honest living, and has amazingly succeeded in achieving that end.

The author, Jane Hunter, was born in a two-room tenant-house on Woodburn farm, near Pendleton, Anderson county, South Carolina. Her parents were sharecroppers, tenant - farmers, field-hands; herself a field-hand, stripping fodder, working in the cotton-field and corn, and more than often sleeping on a bare floor with nothing but a quilt to cover her.

Her father, a field-laborers born in slavery and half-white, was the son of an English oversetr and a full-blooded Negro woman. Her mother's parents were also tenant-farmers, share-croppers and field-hands, in slavery and out, and the first ex-slaves in the district to own the land which their forebears had tilled as slaves. Her early life was often one of hardship and destitution.

Nashville

Worked in Charleston

Her paternal grandmother, an unusually intelligent woman, had been trained by Dr. Thomas Pickens as a practical nurse, and served the entire neighborhood as midwife. Her father, doubtless stirred by his paternity, insisted that his children should secure an education. Her first opportunity to do so was at Silver Springs, where an employer's daughter taught her to write her name and to read simple nursery rhymes.

Opportunity offering, she came to Charleston as a domestic servant in the employ of the Rutledge family. All her references to those who employed her on Woodburn farm and in Charleston are made with grateful remembrance, appreciation, and judicious reticence.

Eager to advance herself, and encouraged by her employers, she obtained admission to Cannon Street Hospital and Training School for Nurses, all instruction there being given by the white physicians of the city. She began her profession under the observing patronage of Dr. T. Grange Simons, chief surgeon at the hospital, and on his recommendation continued her training at Hampton Institution Hospital and School for Nurses.

Planning to practice her profession in Florida, she was carried instead by a queer turn of fate to Cleveland, Ohio, and the practice of her profession there. The disheartening rebuffs she met in that city on account of her color seemed to her more drastic than any she had met in Charleston. One physician told her flatly: 'Go back South; white doctors don't employ nigger nurses," a phrase she had never had applied to her before.

Influx of Negroes.

The mushroom growth of Cleveland between the years 1910 and 1920, as regarded its Negro population, was 300 per cent. Hordes of uneducated, untrained Negro laborers poured in from the South. Drawn from rural communities and country villages by the lure of better wages, the ignorant, friendless Negroes offered a glaring mark for the rapacity for real estate sharks, corrupt politicians, and procurers: Cleveland's Black Belt underwent a vicious degradation of a type familiar to all Northern cities having a large population of primitive black folk.

By her own experience familiar with, and seeing the tragedy of young colored women coming into a strange city alone, beset by temptations and danger, struggling for a livelihood against discrimination, injustice, lack of educational opportunity, wantingg a decent place in which to live, in a community where poverty and vice awaited the unfortunate, she set herself the task of providing a home for friendless Negro girls, a refuge for the weak, a guard for the unsophisticated, a training-school for the industrious, offering education to the ambitions, and a place of decent recreation for the young.

Her aim was to rescue and to assist young Negro girls alone and friendless in a great city, without employment, reduced to squalor in disreputable tenements, and well-nigh helpless against mental, physical and moral degradation; and to lift the satndards of Negro working-women by adequate training for efficient and self-respecting service.

Founded by Own Race

With singular insight she turned for aid not to influential white patronage, but to the poor and lowly of her own race, a group of Negro working-women. Starting literally with "a nickel and a prayer", that small group of poor, hard-working Negro women set out to found a great philantropic enterprise in a Northern city, led by the South Carolina girl, Jane Hunter.

Difficult year after difficult year their efforts moved forward, resolutely, patiently, courageously, often against stubborn, and sometimes sinister, oppositon, to build an agency for the training and guidance of inexperienced Negro girls; to cultivate a reasonable understandnig between the white and dark races; and to demonstrate the truth that the only efficient method of dealing with a submerged minority is not paternalistic but democratic, by helping the underprivileged individual to help himself.

In their first old, vacant building these women rolled up their sleeves and did the work themselves of reordering disorder: they "washed the dirty windows, scrubbed the dirty floors, and scraped off twenty layer of old paper from the walls."

Battling upward against prejudice, discrimination, scepticism, distrust, and the malignant treachery of corrupt polities, that home for the friendless has grown into a great and greatly efficient community center supported by both white and black, with cordial cooperation and commendation from the highest and best . . . a notable example of most successful interracial cooperation in the field of social service.

Copied in Nine Cities

Thus, through the devoted work of that small group of Negro working-women, led and inspired by this South Carolina Negro girl, was established the Phillis Wheatley Association of Cleveland, a training-school and refuge for Negro working-girls, guiding the ignorant, protecting the weak, directing the foolish, providing training for service and for home-making, education for the ambitious, recreation for the wayward, and a home for the homeless.

Nashville

The National Association of Colored Women has now established like institutions in nine American cities; and Jane Hunter is chairman of that department of the national organization. In just recognition of her accomplishment for herself and her people, Wilberforce University has conferred upon her the honorary degree of M. A.; Tuskegee that of M. S.; and, completing a life-long desire for education, after four years study, Jane Hunter passed the stringent state examination,; and is admitted a full-fledged lawyer at the Ohio bar.

Jane Hunter is a realist. Not blind to discrimination, she confronts race prejudice frankly and sensibly, seeking only justice for capable members of her race; and maintaining, as did Booker Washington, that the way upward for self-respecting, self-supporting Negroes is by adequate education.

Forces for Evil

DEC 27 1940

Clear-sightedly she perceives that through disregard for the potentialities of the Negro race in large American cities, that potency has become a force for evil, breeding disease and crime, and, uniting with even more malignant forces of evil, has become a menance to civic life.

Claiming nothing beyond merit's honest deserts, shunning the toadstood of political advancement, she asks no privilege beyond that deserved by actual achievement. What she herself has accomplished is extraordinary; what she has enabled other women of her race to do for themselves is no less extraordinary. What is more, while rising to distinction herself, she has not forgotten the kindness and consideration shown her in her own days of adversity as an underprivileged girl in domestic service, cotton field and corn, but speaks of those difficult days and their condittion with sensitive appreciation and grateful remembrance.

The Phyllis Wheatley Association is the embodiment of the philosophy maintained at Tuskegee by Booker Washington; and, like Washington, the author concludes, against all crack-pot theories, that "The Negro must develop his own abilities, and make his contribution to the world . . . as a Negro."

This book is out of the ordinary one of the most remarkable books produced by an American Negro. It calls for more than ordinary consideration, and a place beside Booker Washington's "Up From Slavery."

JOHN BENNETT.

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Richmond, Va. News-Leader
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What is probably the most extensive publication ever issued on books, pamphlets and essays concerning the Negro race has just been compiled at Hampton Institute. It is a classified catalogue of the Negro collection in the Collis P. Huntington Library at that college. This collection, one of the most valuable of its kind in any library, consists of approximately 6,000 titles, many now out of print.

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Pittsburgh Courier

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By LOMBARD C. JONES

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At Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., studying and teaching among people of his own color, Du Bois learned new things about the world—things like "Jim Crow" cars, public disdain and insult for Negroes encountered on the street, the violence of rope and pistol, lynch law and its sadistic enforcement. He came to question the white world's interpretation of democratic development and to wonder how the American Negro, particularly in the South, could be admitted to open and effective participation in the "inevitable and logical democracy."

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Out of this controversy grew the Niagara Movement, significantly championing, among other things, freedom of speech and criticism, the recognition of the highest and best human training as the monopoly of no caste or race, full manhood suffrage, a belief in the dignity of labor, and a united effort to realize such ideals under wise and courageous leadership. In 1909 the Niagara Movement was absorbed by a new and larger organization, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, of which Dr. Du Bois became director of publications and research. In 1910 his idea of a critical periodical for the American Negro came to fruition in the first issue of the association's organ of propaganda and defense, The Crisis, whose pages under his editorship have borne the first published work of many distinguished contemporary Negro writers.

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"—That 987 loans were made to negro farm tenants in the first two years the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act was in operation?

"—that 427 negro families were farming on 10 rental cooperatives in January 1940?

"—that more than 1,800 negro families are living today on farm homestead projects?

"—that more than 500 negro county agents are serving farmers in the field?

"—that a 1939 survey of 50,000 negro farm families shows their average net worth has increased from $451 to $752 since the inauguration of the rehabilitation program?"

Through The Storm

By Coleman Rosenberger

NOV 27 1940

MARY CHURCH TERRELL'S "A Colored Woman in a White World" is a valuable addition to Langston Hughes' "The Big Sea" and W. E. B. Du Bois' "Dusk of Dawn" in the growing list of autobiographical works by Negro leaders. For if Mrs. Terrell's memoirs are written with considerably less literary facility than Mr. Hughes' or Dr. Du Bois', her book has its special interest as the first full length autobiography by a Negro woman.

Washington Post

Mrs. Terrell recounts a long and active career—many years of which have been spent in Washington where her husband, the late Robert Heberton Terrell, was Judge of the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia—and much of the value of the volume, as H. G. Wells writes in his preface, "lies in its revelation of the character and mental reactions of its writer and the changing social atmosphere in which she has lived."

Mrs. Terrell was born near the close of the Civil War in Memphis, but her childhood was not that of the average Negro child in the deep South. Her family enjoyed a considerable degree of economic security and, when their small daughter was old enough to enter school, her parents sent her North to attend the Model School conducted in connection with Antioch College.

Washington D. C.

From here she went to Oberlin College, where she took the classical course—an unusual thing for any girl at that time—entered into the life of the college, was one of the editors of the "Oberlin Review," and received her A. B. degree in 1884.

For several years after her graduation she taught in Ohio and here in Washington and then went abroad with her father. When he returned to America, his daughter remained in Europe to continue her studies at Lausanne, and later in Berlin.

When she returned to the United States, she resumed teaching in Washington and soon after married Mr. Terrell, a young Negro lawyer, a native of Virginia who had attended Groton and Harvard, who was then also teaching.

MRS. TERRELL became well known in educational circles, and was appointed to the Board of Education of the District of Columbia, becoming the first colored woman in the United States to serve on a Board of Education. She continued as a member of the board for more than a decade.

MARY CHURCH TERRELL
Author of "A Colored Woman in a White World"

Mrs. Terrell was active in the struggle for Negro rights. She was the first president of National Association of Colored Women and was a charter member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She spoke extensively, particularly in educational institutions throughout the Nation, and addressed large audiences at Cornell, Harvard, Radcliffe, Randolph-Macon, Oberlin, Wellesley and many other universities and colleges. She was a delegate to the International Congress of Women in Berlin in 1904, where she delivered her address in English, French and German.

During this period Mrs. Terrell also began to write. She published a discussion of lynching in the North American Review in answer to an article by Thomas Nelson Page. She contributed to Nineteenth Century, published in London, and many other periodicals and newspapers, but found much reluctance, particularly on the part of American editors, to deal with the problems of race relations.

In 1919 Mrs. Terrell represented the colored women of the United States at the International Congress of Women for Permanent Peace in Zurich, and again in London in 1937 at the World Fellowship of Faiths. She found time for such political activity as serving as director of work among colored women for the National Republican Committee, and later as taking an active part in Ruth Hanna McCormick's campaign for the Senate.

The most important chapters of the volume, however, are those dealing specifically with racial intolerance; the insults, the discriminations, and worse. The record of the intolerance directed against a person even of Mrs. Terrell's intellectual and cultural attainments, is a significant commentary on race relations in the United States.

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IF THERE IS criticism to be made of the volume, it is, perhaps, that Mrs. Terrell too often seems to consider her career as something of an individual struggle. Rarely does she see it as a part of the struggle which all oppressed peoples must make toward a common end. This is a point which H. G. Wells suggests in his preface when he writes:

"Mrs. Church Terrell has lived her life through a storm of burning injustice; but if she had been born a sensitive and impressionable white girl in a village on some English estate, destined normally to be an underhouesmaid and marry an undergardener, she would have had almost the same story to tell, if not in flamboyant colors then in aquatint. She would have struggled to independence and self-respect against handicaps less obvious but more insidious. She would have discovered parallel frustrations. She would have found her brothers and cousins barred, very effectively if not quite so emphatically, from education and opportunity. She would have realized that the mutual antagonism of classes, the conflict of the old school tie with the rank outsider, the monopolization of business and jobs, the contemptuous treatment of the lower-class girl, the victimization of the little man, were all going on—not in terms of blood and fire, but in monochrome—which may at times become a dingy grey, more dispiriting perhaps than the hot sunshine on a hot plantation."

Mrs. Terrell, however, has presented the record of a significant career and her book is one which should have many readers.

"A COLORED WOMAN IN A WHITE WORLD," by Mary Church Terrell. Preface by H. G. Wells. (Ransdell, $2.50.)